

MARVEL



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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

THE MICRONAUTS

THEY COME FROM INNER SPACE

48
PAGE
SPECIAL!



BUTCH
GUICE
1983

BILL MANTLO • **BUTCH GUICE** • **KELLEY JONES & SAM GRAINGER**
WRITER PENCILER INKERS

RICK PARKER • **BOB SHAREN** • **RALPH MACCHIO** • **JIM SHOOTER**
LETTERER COLORIST EDITOR EDITOR IN CHIEF

THESE ARE
THE EYES OF
OJEEG,
HUNTER,
WARRIOR.

CAT'S
EYES

WATCHING

WAITING...



Stan Lee
PRESENTS!

COMMANDER
ARCTURUS
RANN

ACROYEAR

BUG

MARIONETTE

HUNTARR

FIREFLYTE

the
MICRONAUTS!

... WAITING
UNTIL THE
TIME FOR
WAITING IS
FAST.

MREEOWRRR!

BEWARE!
TO YOUR WEAPONS!
THE HOLMEWING
THREAT IS UPON US!

THE WOLVERINE TRIBE
SWEEPS DOWN FROM
THE HIGH PLACES
MORE SWIFTLY THAN
A SUDDEN WINTER
SNOW.

UNABLE TO RESIST THEM,
THE BEAVER PEOPLE ARE
DRIVEN DOWN TO THE RIVER
SIDE. THERE THEIR BLOOD
STAINS THE ICED RIVER.

THE RAIDING
PARTY IS
SAVAGELY
EFFICIENT.

THEY STRIKE DOWN THE
BEAVER PEOPLE WHERE
THEY FIND THEM, SHOW-
ING NO MERCY ON AC-
COUNT OF AGE OR SEX.

TO SPARE THE
ENEMY WOULD
BE TO DOOM
THEMSELVES.

...ON A WORLD WHERE
THERE IS TOO LITTLE
FOOD, AND TOO MANY
MOUTHS TO FEED.

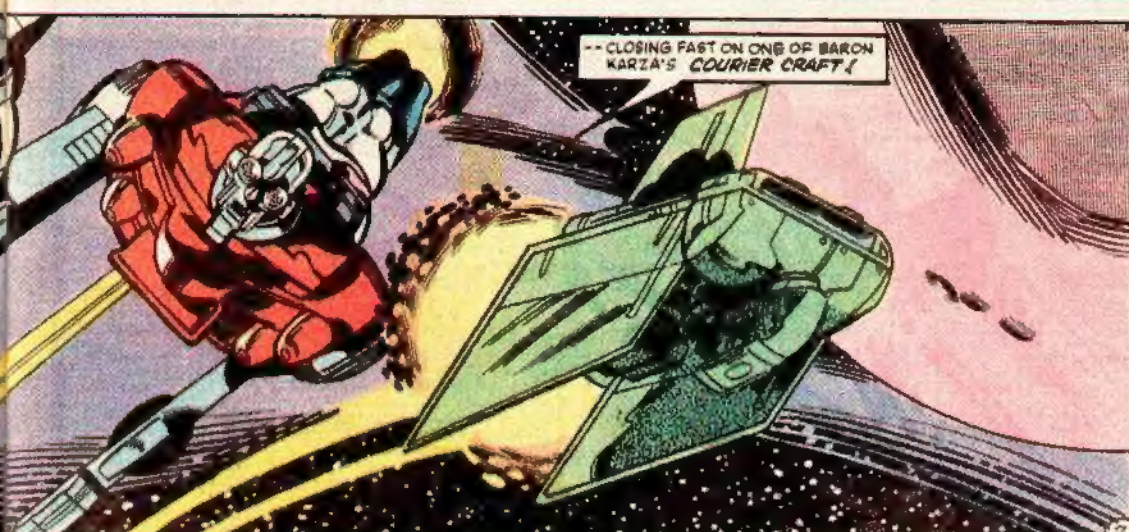
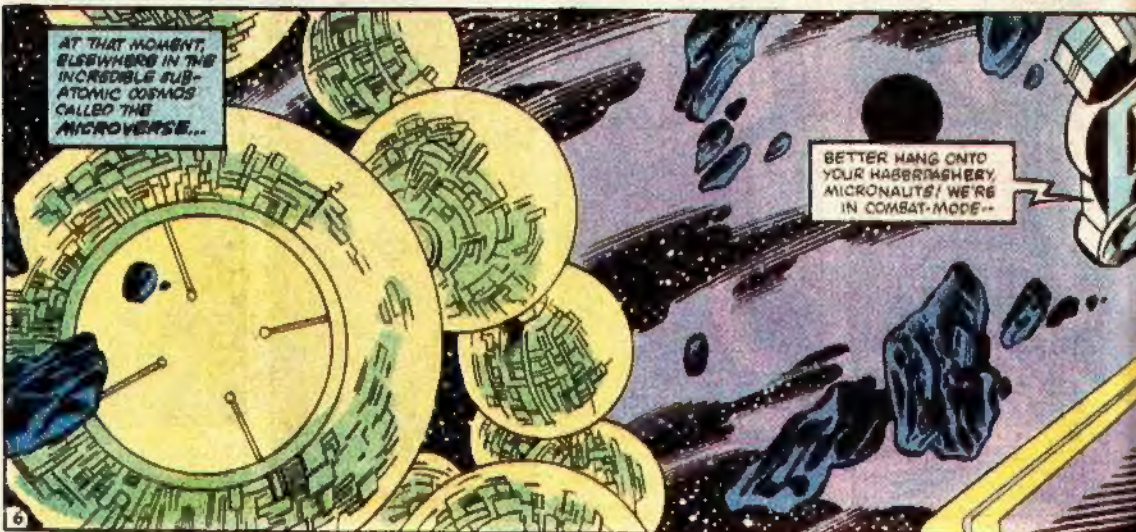
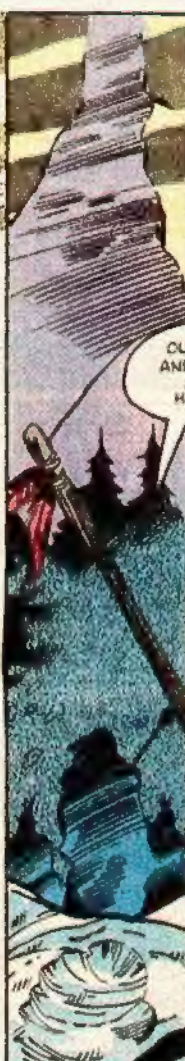
THUS, ALTHOUGH THE
BEAVER PEOPLE DO
NOT DIE WITHOUT
DEFENDING THEM-
SELVES AS BEST
THEY ARE ABLE...

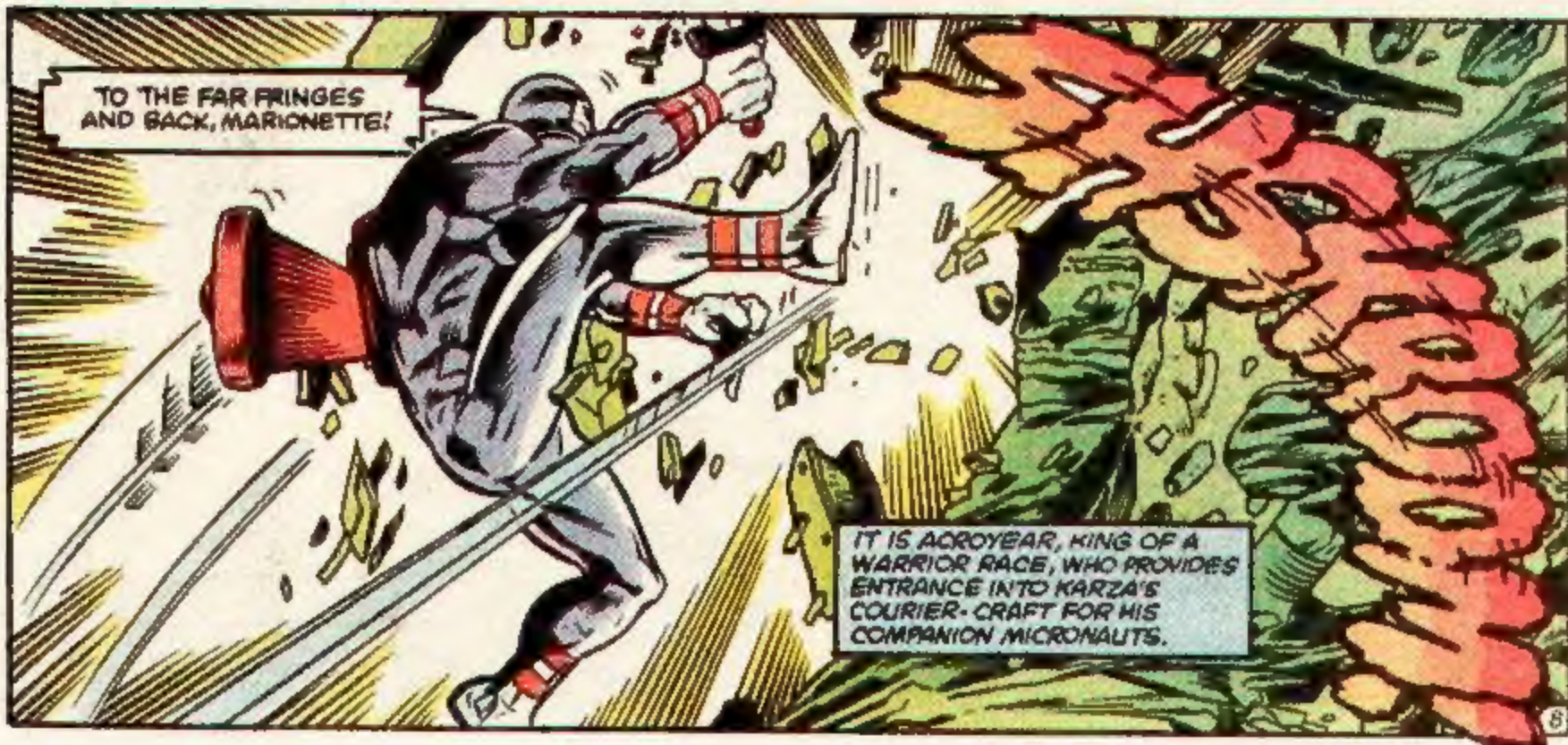
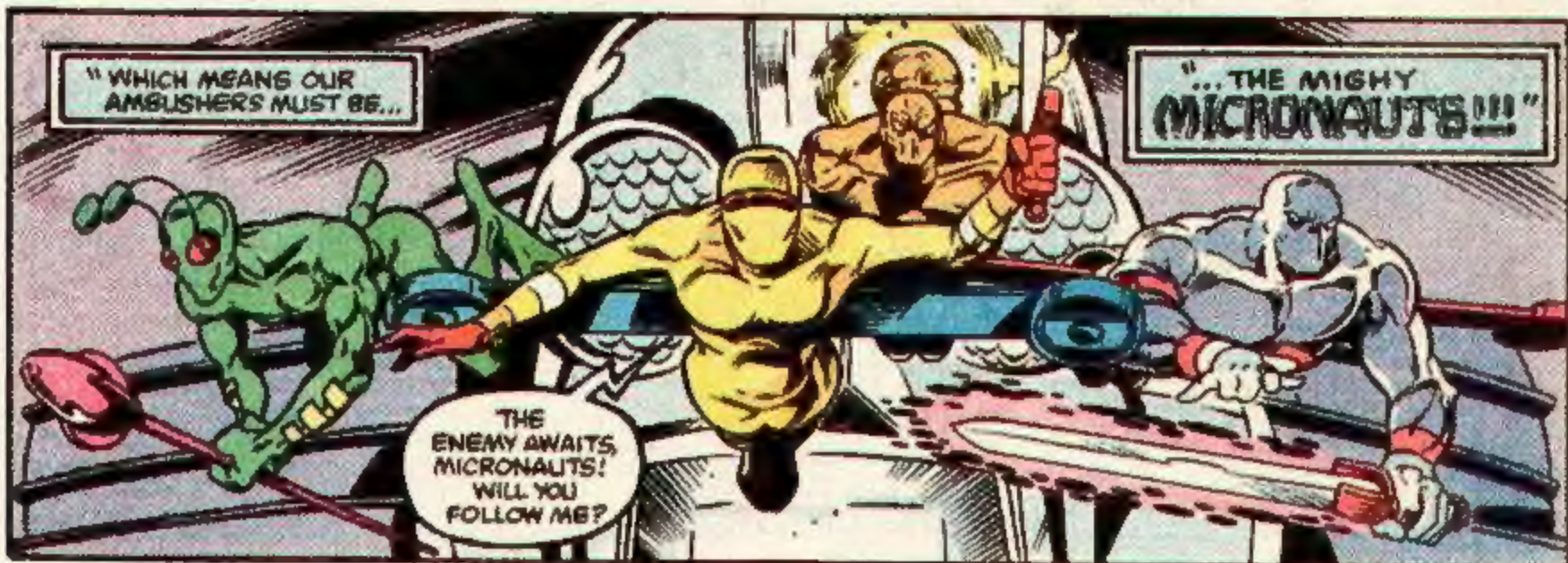
...IN THE END, THEY
DIE JUST THE SAME,
THAT THE WOLVERINE
MAY LIVE.

SUCH IS THE WAY
IT HAS ALWAYS
BEEN. SUCH IS
THE WAY IT IS.

SUCH, THINKS
OJEEG--CHIEF
OF THE WOLVERINE
TRIBE--IS THE
WAY IT MUST
ALWAYS BE...

...ON THIS WORLD
OF NEVER-SUMMER.







ABOARD THE BIOSHIP, THE RUTHLESSNESS OF HIS TEAMMATES DOES NOT GO UNNOTICED BY COMMANDER ARCTURUS RANN, NOMINAL LEADER OF THE MIGHTY MICRONAUTS...



WE DOG SOLDIERS
ARE USED TO PURSUING
YOU REBELS ACROSS THE
MICROVERSE, PRINCESS!



I FIND IT SUR-
PRISING THAT YOU
FIND THE COURAGE
TO TURN AND ATTACK
YOUR ATTACKERS!

EACH VICTORY WAS COSTLIER
THAN THE LAST, COMMANDER--
BOTH IN TERMS OF CASUALTIES,
AND IN THE MANNER IN WHICH
YOUR MICRONAUTS' HEARTS
WERE HARDENED AGAINST
KARZA.

THEY DO NOT MEAN TO
MERELY DEFEAT HIM THIS
TIME 'ROUND. THEIR INTENT
IS TO UTTERLY DESTROY
HIM.



BUT AT
WHAT COST
TO THEIR
OWN HU-
MANITY,
BIOSHIP?
ANSWER
ME THAT!

HUMANITY
IS A LUXURY
ENJOYED BY
THE LIVING,
COMMANDER.

... A CLASS
IN WHICH THE
MICRONAUTS
INTEND TO
REMAIN.

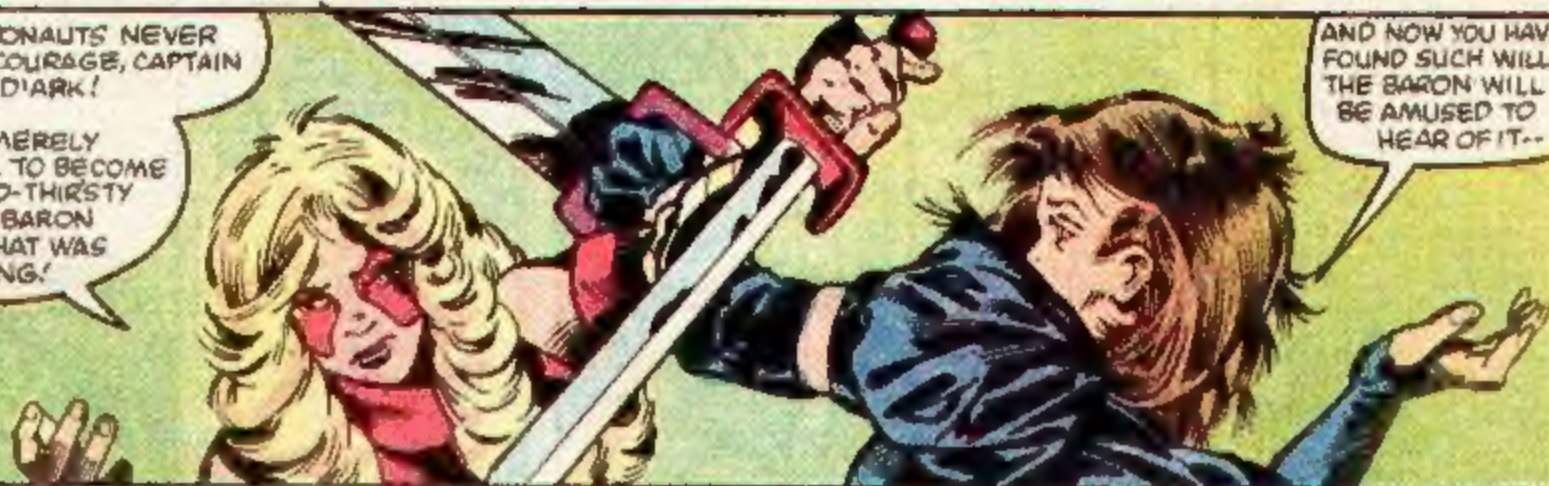
BEAM ME
TO THE BATTLE-
ZONE, BIOSHIP.



BUT, EVEN AS COM-
MANDER RANN PREPARES
TO MODERATE HIS
COMRADES'S BATTLE-LUST...

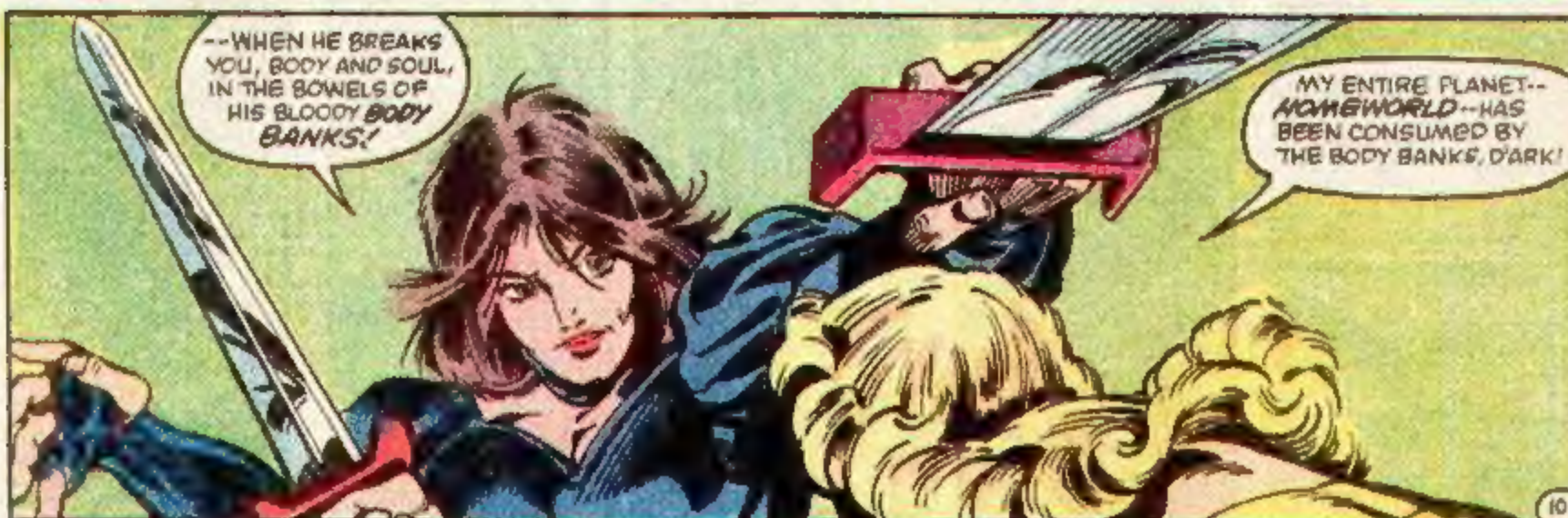
WE MICRONAUTS NEVER
LACKED COURAGE, CAPTAIN
D'ARK!

IT WAS MERELY
THE WILL TO BECOME
AS BLOOD-THIRSTY
AS YOUR BARON
KARZA THAT WAS
MISSING!



AND NOW YOU HAVE
FOUND SUCH WILL?
THE BARON WILL
BE AMUSED TO
HEAR OF IT--

--WHEN HE BREAKS
YOU, BODY AND SOUL,
IN THE BOWELS OF
HIS BLOODY BODY
BANKS!



MY ENTIRE PLANET--
HOMEWORLD--HAS
BEEN CONSUMED BY
THE BODY BANKS, D'ARK!



ALL MY PEOPLE HAVE EITHER BEEN DESTROYED THERE--OR TURNED INTO CARRION COMMANDOS SERVING KARZA!

NOT ALL DOG SOLDIERS ARE CREATIONS OF THE BODY BANKS, MARIONETTE!

SOME OF US ENLISTED TO BETTER BASK IN THE GREATER GLORY OF BARON KARZA!



THEN HELL HAS NO NAME FOR INFAMY SUCH AS YOURS, DARK!



AND HELL HAS NO PUNISHMENT GREATER THAN THAT WHICH I SHALL INFLICT UPON YOUR TRAITOROUS HEAD!

THE REST O' THE DOG SOLDIERS ARE 'TILK DONE FOR, PRINCESS!



LET US HELP YOU, MARIONETTE!

'TWOULD SEEM THE PRINCESS DESIRES NO HELP, HUNTAAR.

NOT WHEN HER DESIRE TO BE AVENGED UPON THE ENEMY BURNS SO FIERCELY WITHIN HER BREAST.



BUT, EVEN AS MARIONETTE IS ABOUT TO DEAL THE KILLING BLOW...

NO! NOT NOW!



GREETINGS, LADIES. I HOPE I'M NOT INTERRUPTING YOUR FUN?

ARCTURUS RANN, DON'T
YOU EVER STOP ME LIKE
THAT AGAIN!

UNSHHH!

SWOK!

MARI, YOU SEEM TO HAVE FOR-
GOTTEN IN YOUR BLOODLUST
THAT THE ONLY REASON I
AUTHORIZED THIS RAID WAS SO
THAT WE COULD GAIN INFOR-
MATION REGARDING WHERE
KARZA WILL STRIKE NEXT!

YOU
AUTHORIZED--?!

LET IT BE SAID NOW,
ARCTURUS RANN, IN
FRONT OF OUR FELLOW
MICRONAUTS ASSEMBLED,
THAT I, MARIONETTE,
CONCEIVED OF AND
CARRIED OUT THIS
ASSAULT ON ONE OF
KARZA'S COURIER-
CRAFT! TO GAIN
INFORMATION,
YES--

HOLY
3TIK6
SHREW!

-- BUT ALSO TO IMPRESS UPON
OUR ENEMIES THAT **WE** CAN BE
AS **RUTHLESS** AS THEY!

NOW, CAPTAIN
D'ARK, YOU ARE
FACED WITH A CHOICE!
EITHER BELIEVE WHAT
I SAY AND TALK--

--OR
DISBELIEVE,
AND DIE!

YOUR CODE OF HONOR
FORBIDS YOUR TAKING
MY LIFE, MARIONETTE!

WHY TEST
THAT THEORY,
CAPTAIN, WHEN
IT'S SO MUCH EASIER
TO GIVE US THE
INFORMATION
WE SEEK?

Y-YOUR SONG,
PENETRATING MY
SKULL, SCANNING
MY THOUGHTS!

I-I CANNOT
LOCK THEM AWAY
FROM YOU!

AND SO D'ARK
TALKS...

IT IS AN INCONSEQUENTIAL WORLD, ALWAYS FROZEN, WHERE WINTER NEVER ENDS!

"--AS AN EXAMPLE
OF HOW EASY
IT IS TO SLAY
A WORLD!"

5 DALLAN
AND SEPSIS.
TO SLAY A
WORLD--?

AS AN
EXAMPLE,
SHE SAID--
THAT OTHER
WORLDS
MIGHT
WITNESS
THE
STRUCTION.

...AND BOW
DOWN TO
KARZA
BEFORE THEY,
TOO, ARE
DESTROYED!

**YOU SAFEGUARD OUR
PRECIOUS HUMANITY
COMMANDER / I INTEND
TO SAFEGUARD OUR
LIVES!**

I SUPPOSE
IT SUPPORTS HUMAN
LIFE, OTHERWISE
THE BARON WOULD
NEVER HAVE CHOSEN
IT--

AND **THIS** IS
THE KIND OF
SCUM YOU WOULD
ADVISE US TO BE
MERCIFUL
TOWARDS.
COMMANDER??

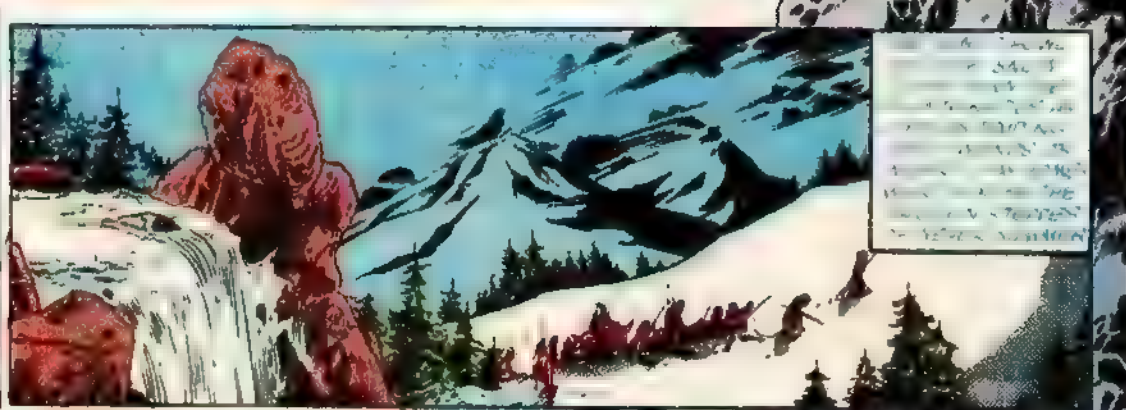
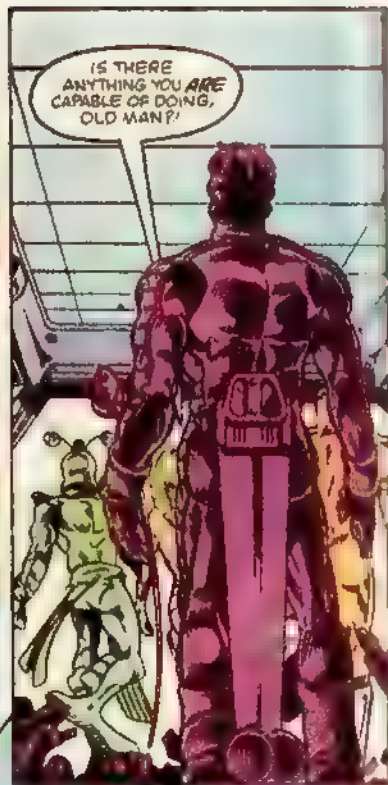
YES, MARI--LEST THIS WAR
MAKE US AS MERCILESS
AS KARZA HIMSELF

WAIT
DAD
WHAT
SHE

DOING:

ALL SHIPS OF THE
LINE IN BARON
KARZA'S BATTLE-
FLEET

... ARE EQUIPPED WITH
ESCAPE PODS
STANDING FUELED
AND READY.





HAIL, OJEEG!
MIGHTY HUNTER
MIGHTY WARRIOR
MIGHTY CHIEF.

FOOD!
FOOD!
FOOD!

FOOD THERE IS, GRAND-
MOTHER—ENOUGH TO
FEED OUR CLAN FOR
SEVERAL SNOWS!



AND AFTER THAT—
THEN HOW SHALL
WE EAT?

FURTHER
RAIDS? FURTHER
BLOODSHED?
WE SURVIVE
NOW BECAUSE
WE, AS
WARRIORS--

ARE ABLE TO
EASILY OVERPOWER
AND STEAL THE
STORES OF THE
GATHERING TRIBES



BUT WHEN THE
GATHERERS ARE
NO MORE, AND WE
ARE FORCED TO
FORAGE FOR OUR
FOOD--
--WILL WE, THEN,
ALSO FALL BEFORE
SOME HUNGRY
WARRIOR TRIBE?

OJEEG! THE
CHILDREN CRY FOR
THEIR SUPPER!



THE PUPS OF
THE BEAVER
TRIBE WILL
NOT CRY THIS
NIGHT, WIFE
THEIR TEARS
FALL FROZEN
ON THE SNOW

A PLAGUE
ON THEIR
LODGES!
WHAT CARE
WE FOR
THEIR
TROUBLES?

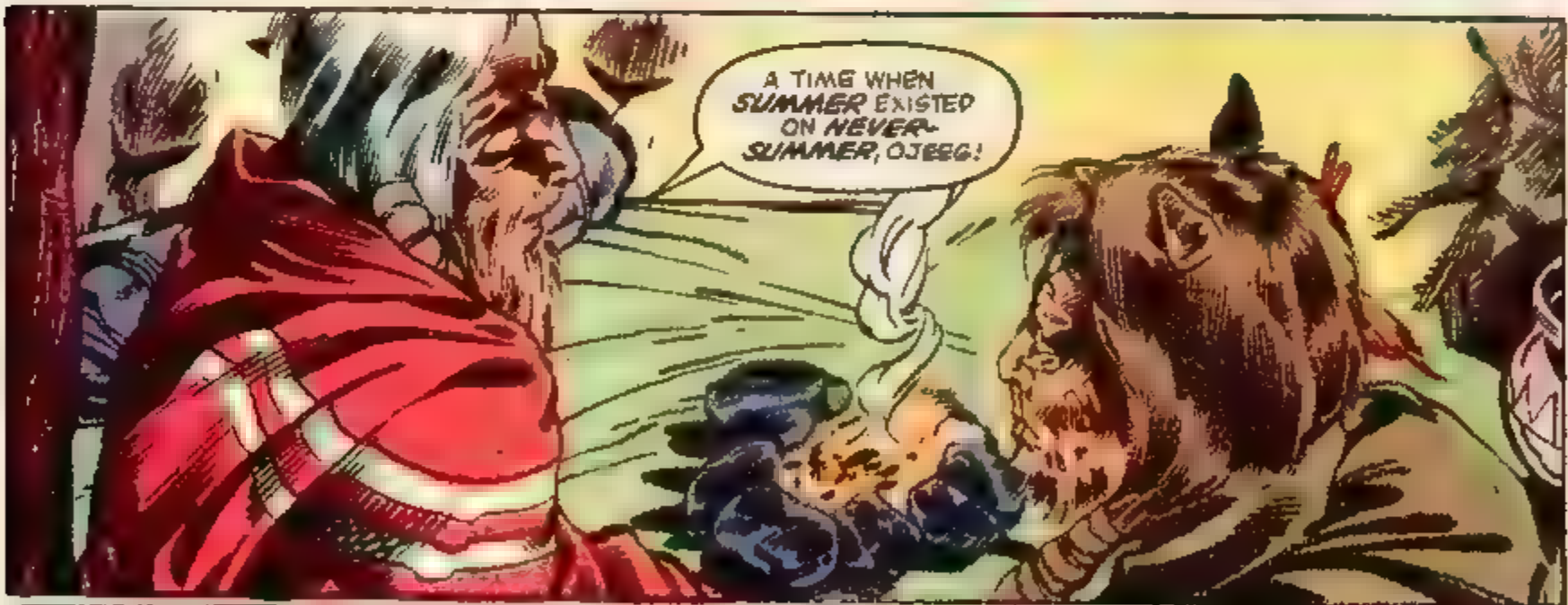
HAD THEY NOT
FISHED, WE
WOULD NOT
HAVE FOOD

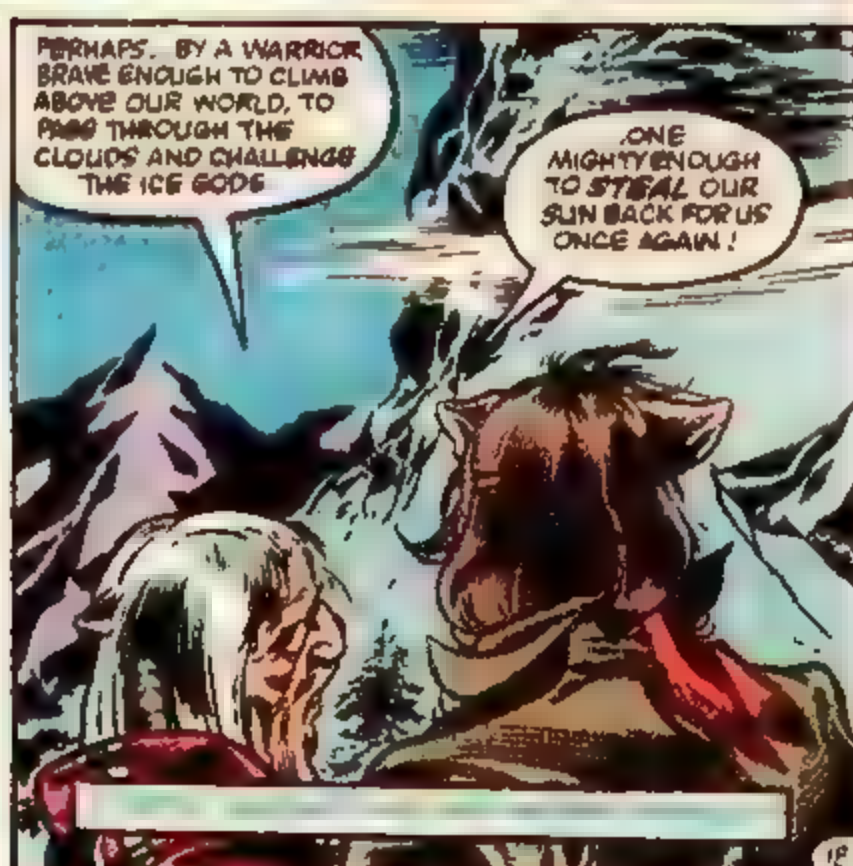
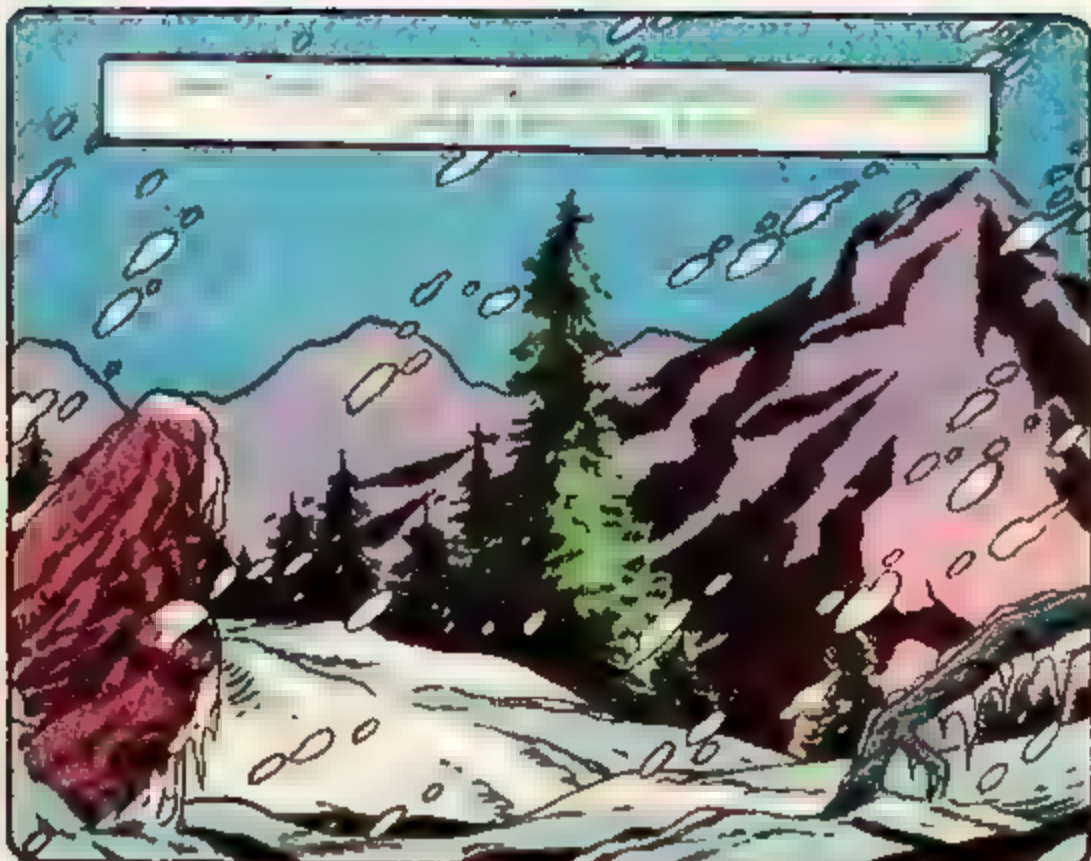


I AM
GOING
OLT
WIFE



TO VISIT
THE SHAMAN





HIGH ABOVE THE PERPETUAL
CLOUD-COVER OF THE
WORLD OF NEVER-SUMMER,
THE **SUN** SHINES IN ALL
ITS SPLENDOR...

... NEITHER WARMING
NOR REFLECTING OFF
THE EBON ARMOR OF
THAT AWESOME
MASTER OF EVIL...

...THE BALEFUL
BARON KARZA,
WOULD-BE LORD OF
THE MICROVERSE!

AH, IT'S A
BEAUTIFUL
DAY--

--FOR
THIS WORLD
TO
DIE!!

DEGRAYDE!
WHERE ARE YOU
LURKING, YOU
SLAVE OF A
SCIENTIST!

I AM
HERE, BARON--
EVER-FAITHFUL,
EVER TOILING TO
ADVANCE YOUR
GREATNESS
'TIL ALL THE
MICROVERSE
SHALL WORSHIP
THE GLORY OF
YOUR NAME!

SPARE ME
MY OWN PROPAGANDA, CHIEF
SCIENTIST--

-- AND TELL ME HOW
GOES THE WORK ON
MY *SUNSCOPE* ?

WELL, MILORD!
MODIFICATIONS
HAVE BEEN MADE
SINCE YOU TURNED
ITS SOLAR RAYS ON
THE SIZZLING SEAS
OF OCEANIA! *

* SEE MICROS
51 -- MICRO MAC.

THERE, IT SHOWED ITSELF
CAPABLE OF MAKING A
DESERT OF ONE OF HOME-
WORLD'S MOLECULAR
ZONES

HERE IT MUST
SHOW ITSELF ABLE
TO BOIL AN ENTIRE
WORLD!

YOU'RE
MAD,
KARZA!

WHAT
CAN YOU HOPE
TO *GAIN* BY
DESTROYING
A PLANET?

MONSTER?

NO, I AM NOT A
MONSTER. NOT
EVEN A GOD...

...THOUGH I
SOUGHT TO BE
THE ULTIMATE
OVERLORD OF
EVIL!

BUT THE AWESOME
EMISSARIES OF THE
ENIGMA FORCE--
THE ENIGMATIC TIME
TRAVELERS-- HAVE
TAUGHT ME THAT I
AM JUST A *MAN*...

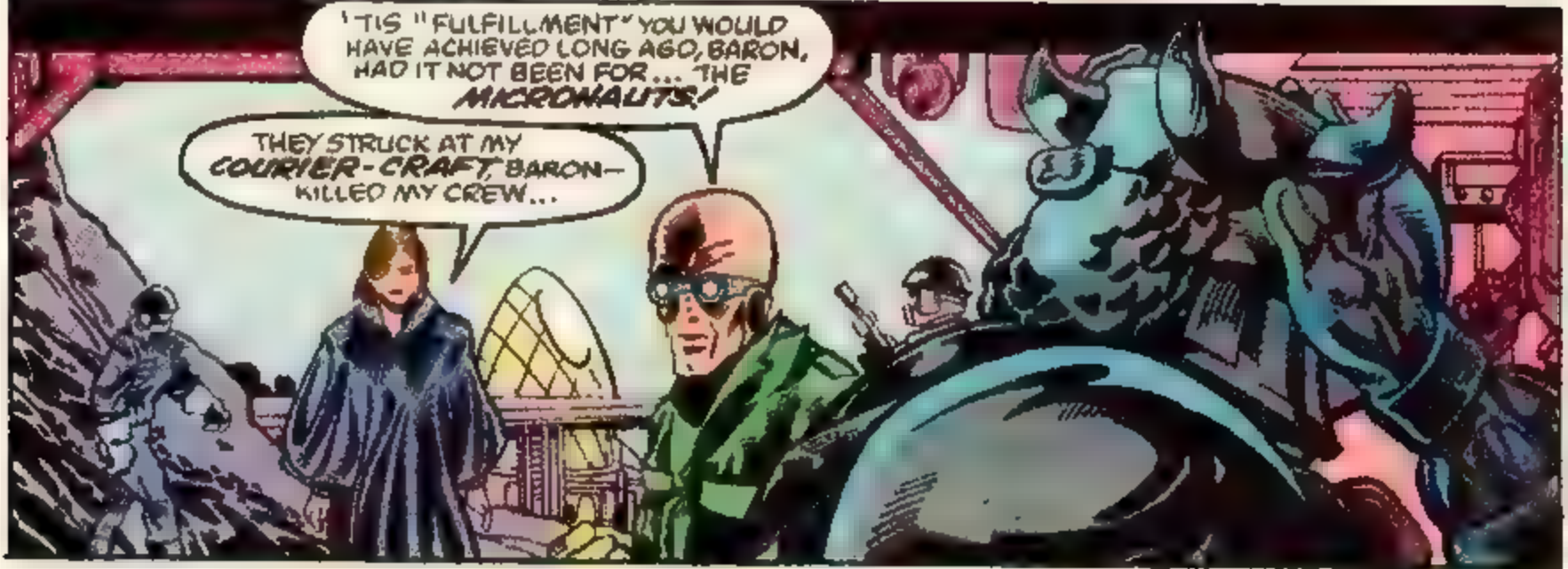
WHO CAN
ONLY TRANSCEND HIS
HUMANITY BY COM-
MITTING ONE UN-
SPEAKABLY *ATHEMAN*
ACT AFTER ANOTHER!

YOUR
SUB-
MISSION
ELDER!

THE VOLUNTARY SURRENDER
OF THE WORLDS OF THE MICROVERSE
BEST THEY BE SUBJECTED
TO A SIMILAR FATE!

THE QUEEN
OF KALIKLAK
CALLS YOU A
MONSTER
KARZA!

ONLY THEN
DO I ACHIEVE
THE FULFILLMENT
MY SOUL DRAVES!



'TIS "FULFILLMENT" YOU WOULD HAVE ACHIEVED LONG AGO, BARON, HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR... THE MICRONAUTS!

THEY STRUCK AT MY COURIER-CRAFT, BARON-- KILLED MY CREW...



...AND EXTRACTED INFORMATION OF YOUR PLANS FOR **NEVER-SUMMER** FROM ME AGAINST MY WILL!

THE MICRONAUTS! I ADMIRE THEIR TENACITY, CAPTAIN D'ARK--

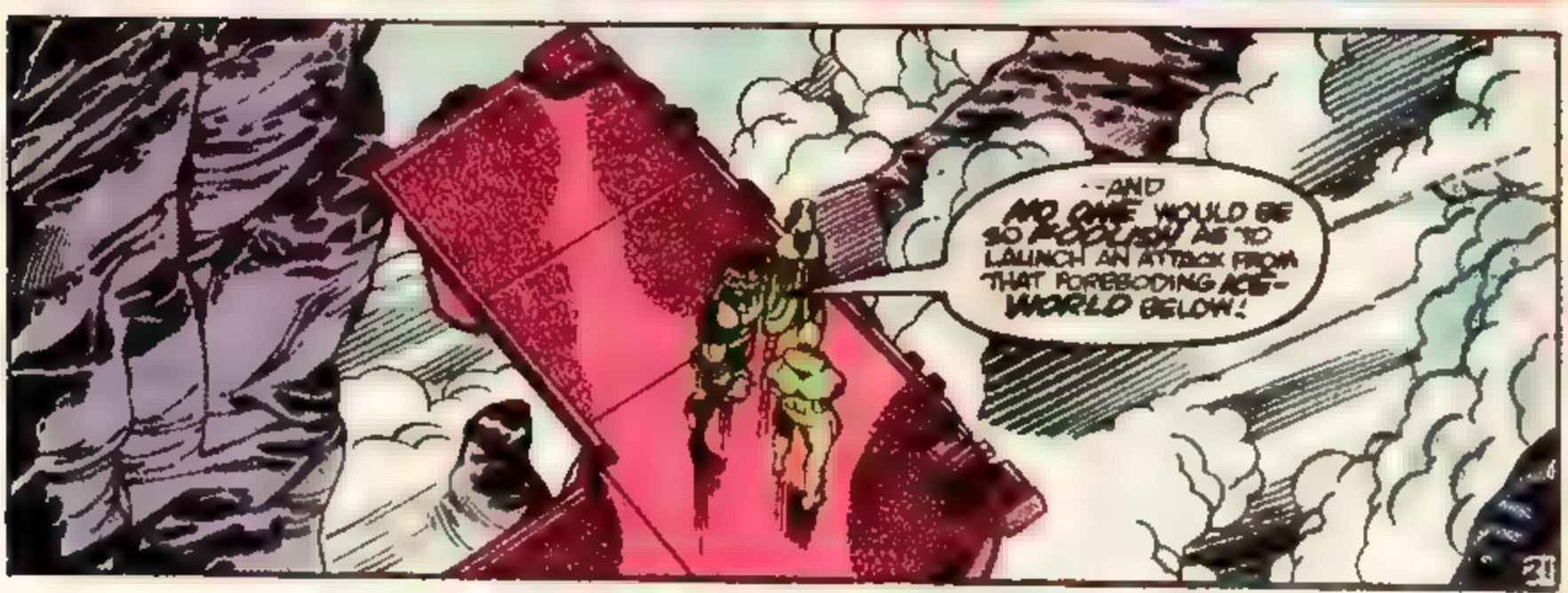
--BUT YOU WOULD THINK THAT THEY WOULD HAVE LEARNED, HAVING "SLAIN" ME TWICE, THAT SUCH AS THEY CAN NEVER DEFEAT **BARON KARZA!**



INDEED, WHAT HOPE HAVE THEY-- SIX INSIPID FOOLS--OF STOPPING ME TODAY? MY AWESOME **BATTLE-FLEET** GUARDS THE SKIES--



--MY INNUMERABLE **DOD SOLDIERS** SAFEGUARD THE **SEASCOPE** ITSELF--



--AND NO ONE WOULD BE SO FOOLISH AS TO LAUNCH AN ATTACK FROM THAT FOREBODING **AGE-WORLD** BELOW!

WELL, IT'S A NICE
WORLD TO VISIT,
BUT I WOULDN'T
WANT TO LIVE
HERE!

ITS SCREENS
SCRAMBLING
DETECTION,
THE GREAT
LIVING BIOSHIP
SETS DOWN ON
THE SNOW-SWEPT
STEPS OF
NEVER-
SUMMER.

...AND, OPENING ITS MASSIVE MAW, IT DISGORGES THOSE SIX STALWARTS WHO
COMPRISE BOTH ITS COMPANIONS AND CREW--THE MIGHTY MICRONAUTS!

WMMM...REMINDS ME
OF HOMEWORLD'S SUB-
ZERO ZONE...

BEFORE THE
SNOWS MELTED
HER SPLENDID
ICE-SPIRES!

* SEE
MICROS IN
32--R.M.

MARI CAN
I TALK WITH YOU
A MOMENT?

BUT THE REST OF THE
TEAM DECIDED TO FOL-
LOW ME. WHAT'S WRONG,
ARCTURUS? FINDING IT
HARD TO COMMAND A
CREW THAT WON'T NEED
A COWARD!

I WAS ALWAYS
TAUGHT THAT DIS-
CRETION IS THE
BETTER PART OF
VALOR!

WHEREAS WE
CAN'T WAIT TO KICK
HIS TIK. EBON-
ARMORED BUTT
FROM ONE END O'
THE MICROVERSE
TO THE TIK OTHER!

YOU KNOW
I OPPOSED THIS
MISSION! IT'S INSANE--
WE SIX AGAINST
KARZA'S ARMIES!

AND YOU
WERE TAUGHT THAT
BY YOUR TEACHER--BARON
KARZA THE VERY MAN
WE'VE COME TO KILL!

PERHAPS YOU
HAVE LOST THE STOMACH
FOR FIGHTING YOUR
FORMER PROFESSOR

GOOD THING
I SAVED MY TIK-
PASSIONWORLD
DUDS, HUN?

I MEAN IF ANY WORLD'S COLDER'N THE ßTIKÉ INSIDE
O' AN ICEBOX, THIS ONE ßTIKÉ IS!

YOU LOOK AS DAPPER AS YOU ARE
DARING, MY DARLING BUG!

IT APPEARS THAT MARIONETTE'S
AFFECTIONS HAVE SHIFTED FROM
COMMANDER RANN TO BUG,
ACROYEAR.

MY COURAGE IS
ALL IN MY ßTIKÉ
CLOTHES, PRINCESS!

AYE HUNTAAR, EVEN AS
OUR SHIFT IN ALLEGIANCE
HAS MADE HER OUR
NOMINAL LEADER!

FINDING BOTH HIS
LEADERSHIP AND
HIS LOVE FOR
MARIONETTE
CAST ASIDE...

... COMMANDER
ARCTURUS RANN--
THE FORMER LEADER
OF THE MICRONAUTS...

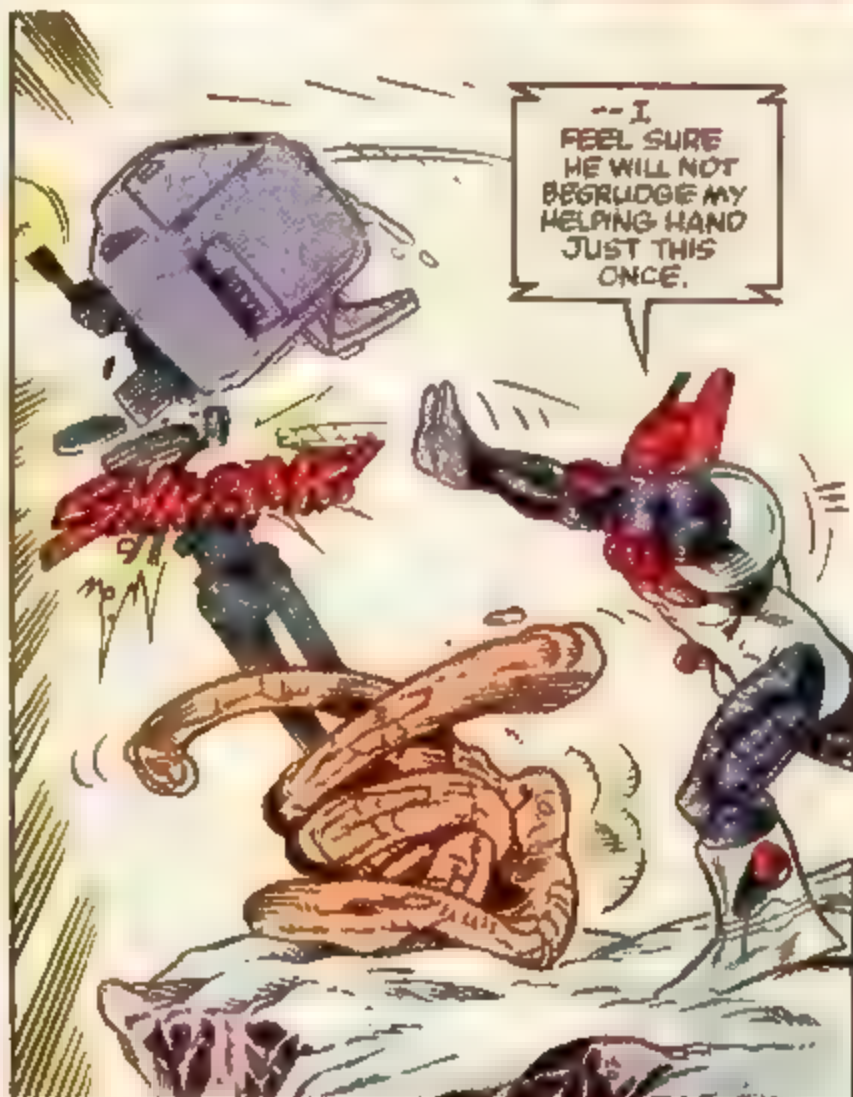
... FINDS HE HAS NO
CHOICE BUT TO FOLLOW
IN MARIONETTE'S
FOOTSTEPS...

... OR BE LEFT
BEHIND WITH THE
BIGSHIP--TO BE
FOUND BY ONE OF
NEVER-SUMMER'S
AWESTRUCK NATIVES

BY THE
ICE-GODS--!

WHAT ARE YOU,
CREATURE? SOME
GIGANTIC GUARDIAN
OF THE HIGH PASSES
TO THE SACRED
MOUNTAIN?

RECEIVING
NO ANSWER
FROM THE
TOWERING
MAN OF
METAL, THE
CHIEFTAIN OF
THE WOLVERING
TRIBE PRESSES
ON...





DOEG IS
TIRED.

AFTER MANY HOURS
HE HAS SCALED
THE STEEP SIDES
OF THE SACRED
MOUNTAIN.

HIS EYES
ACHE FROM
THE ICE-
CLARE...



HE KNOWS HE
MAY BE
RETRAYED BY
HIS FRIENDS
BUT HE
WANTS TO
GO IN THE
SACRED MOUNTAIN.



BUT HE IS
BATTERED AND
BROODY.



HE KNOWS
HE WILL
REACH THE
SUMMIT, THERE
HE BELIEVES
HE WILL FIND.

SUMMER

MEANWHILE, FAR ABOVE...

MARI!

THE ICE
HAS GIVEN
WAY BENEATH
HER!

DON'T
Worry,
PRINCESS!

-OL' BUG'LL
ETIK: GETCHA!

YOU'RE ALWAYS
THERE WHEN I NEED
YOU, BUG... UNLIKE
SOME OTHER LOVERS
I'VE KNOWN

COLD CLOSES IN AROUND
ARCTURUS RANN'S HEART,
AS HE REALIZES THAT HE MAY
BE MORE ALONE THAN EVER..

THEY
HOLD THE KEY

SPLOP!

WHUMP!

BOOM!





THE MICRONAUTS
CLIMB



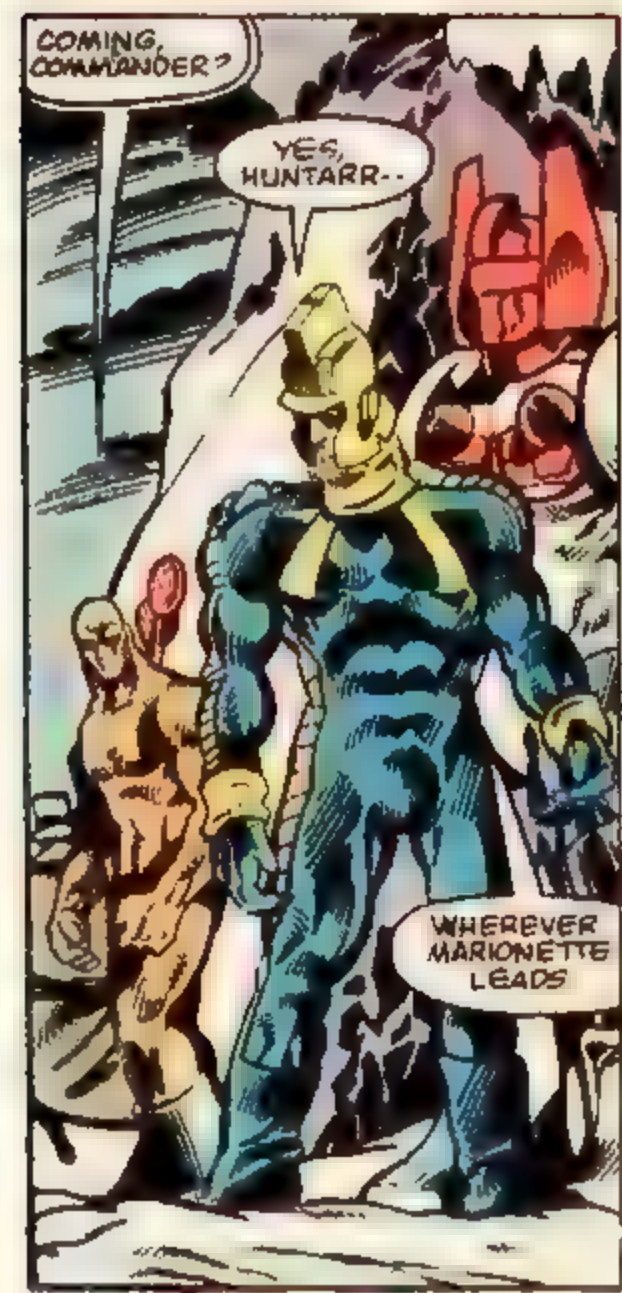
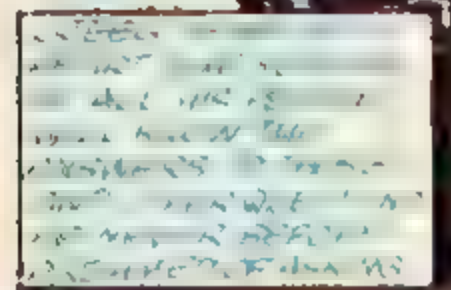
MARIONETTE
CLIMBS
THE
CLIFF



BARON KARZA
STANDS
ON THE
MOUNTAIN



THE MICRONAUTS
CLIMB



THE MICRONAUTS CLIMB
SILENTLY, STEADILY, AND
AFTER AN EXERTION OF
MANY HOURS, THEY
BREAK THROUGH THE
CLOUD COVER BIRDING
THE SACRED MOUNTAIN'S
SUMMIT..



...ONLY TO
DISCOVER THAT
THERE STANDS
A SHADOW
BETWEEN THEM
AND THE SUN!



BARON KARZA!

11-14-
2-10-32
4-2-32
1-1-32
-4-32
-1-32



11-14-
2-10-32
4-2-32
1-1-32
-4-32
-1-32

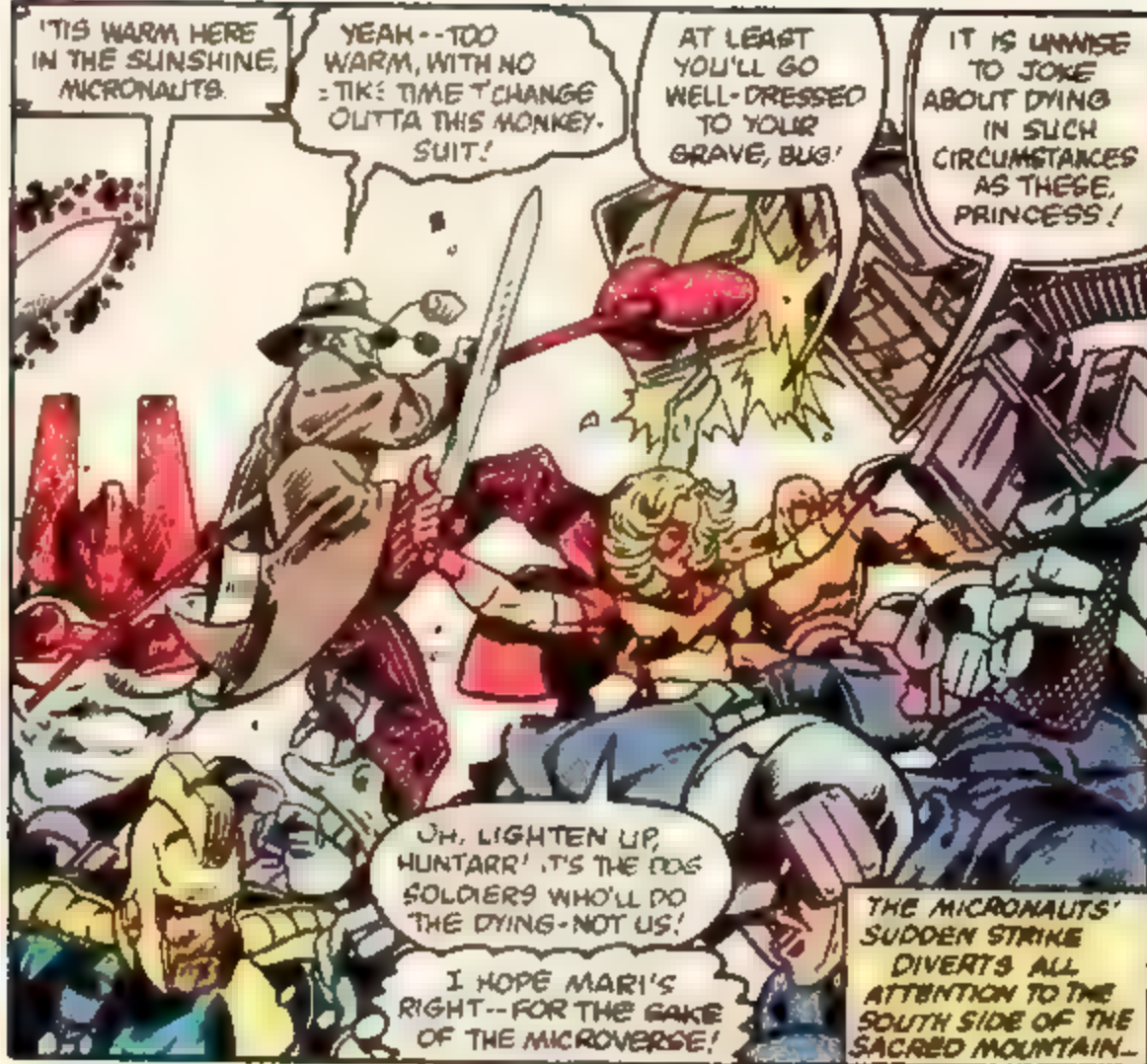


THE BLIND
LEAVING
THE BLIND.



PRAY, MY
PEOPLE: PRAY
FOR YOUR
CHIEFTAIN,
OJEEB--

--AND
PRAY FOR
SUMMER!



'TIS WARM HERE
IN THE SUNSHINE,
MICRONAUTS.

YEAH--TOO
WARM, WITH NO
-TKE TIME T'CHANGE
OUTTA THIS MONKEY-
SUIT!

AT LEAST
YOU'LL GO
WELL-DRESSED
TO YOUR
GRAVE, BUG!

IT IS UNWISE
TO JOKE
ABOUT DYING
IN SUCH
CIRCUMSTANCES
AS THESE,
PRINCESS!

OH, LIGHTEN UP,
HUNTARR! IT'S THE FDS
SOLDIERS WHO'LL DO
THE DYING--NOT US!

I HOPE MARI'S
RIGHT--FOR THE SAKE
OF THE MICROVERSE!

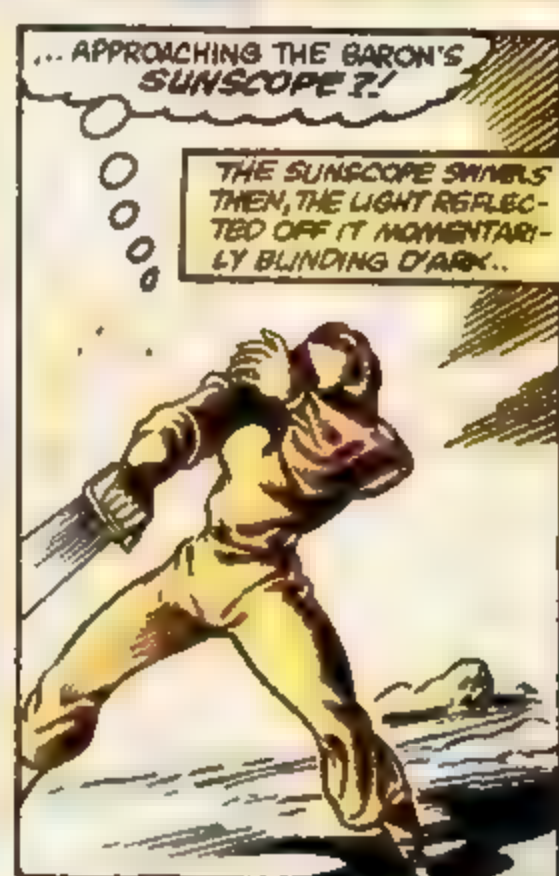
THE MICRONAUTS'
SUDDEN STRIKE
DIVERTS ALL
ATTENTION TO THE
SOUTH SIDE OF THE
SACRED MOUNTAIN...



LEAVING OTHER APPROACHES
UNGUARDED, AND THE ARRIVAL OF
A CERTAIN PILGRIM UNDETECTED

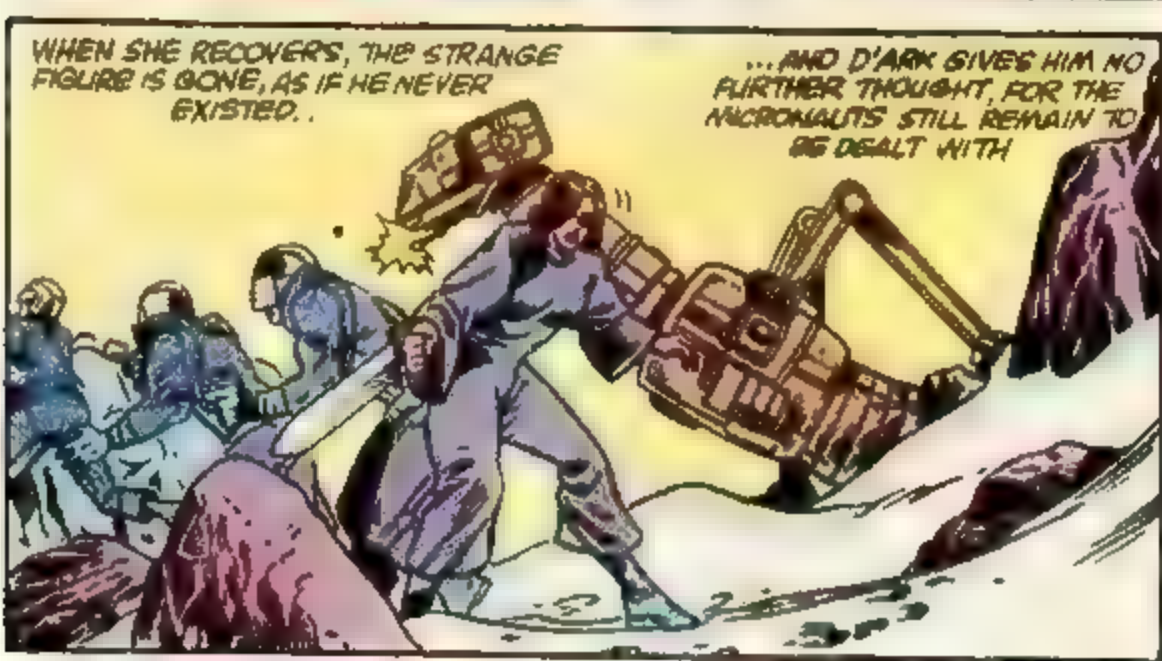
BY
ALL SAVE
CAPTAIN
D'ARK!

EH?
SOMEONE SLIPPING
BEHIND OUR RANKS.



... APPROACHING THE BARON'S
SUNSCOPE ?!

THE SUNSCOPE SWIMBLS
THEN, THE LIGHT REFLEC-
TED OFF IT MOMENTARI-
LY BLINDING D'ARK..



WHEN SHE RECOVERS, THE STRANGE
FIGURE IS GONE, AS IF HE NEVER
EXISTED..

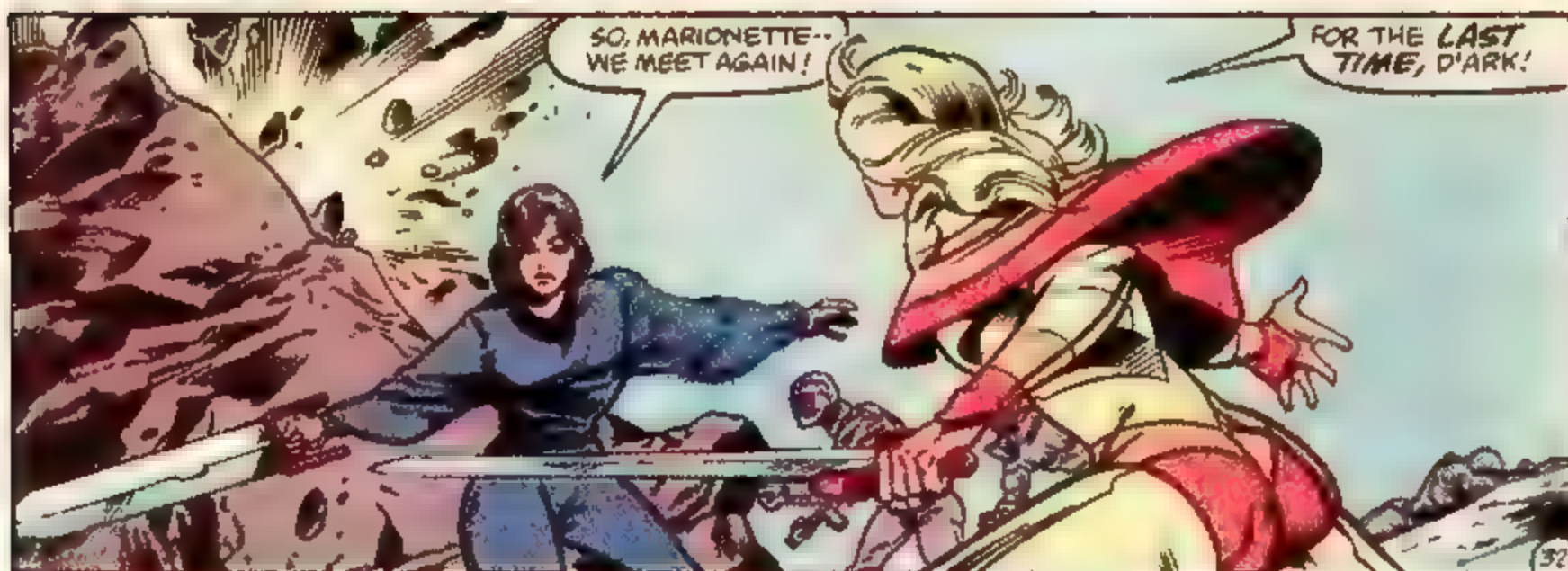
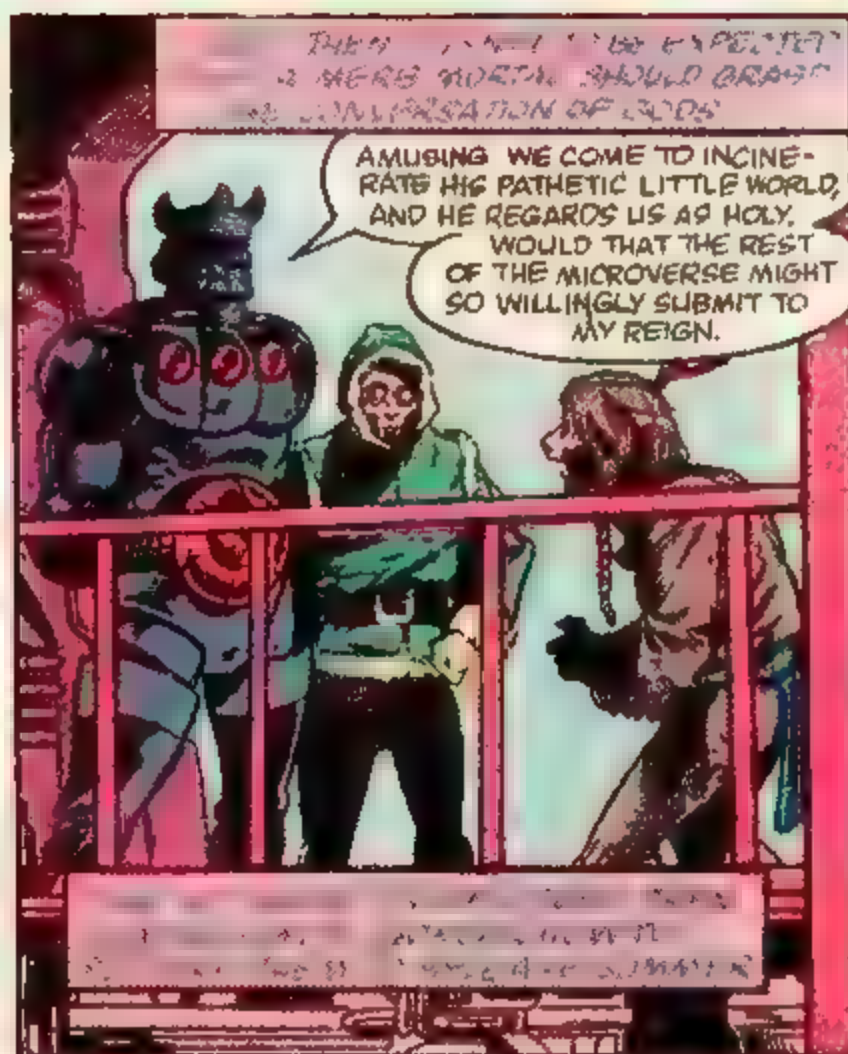
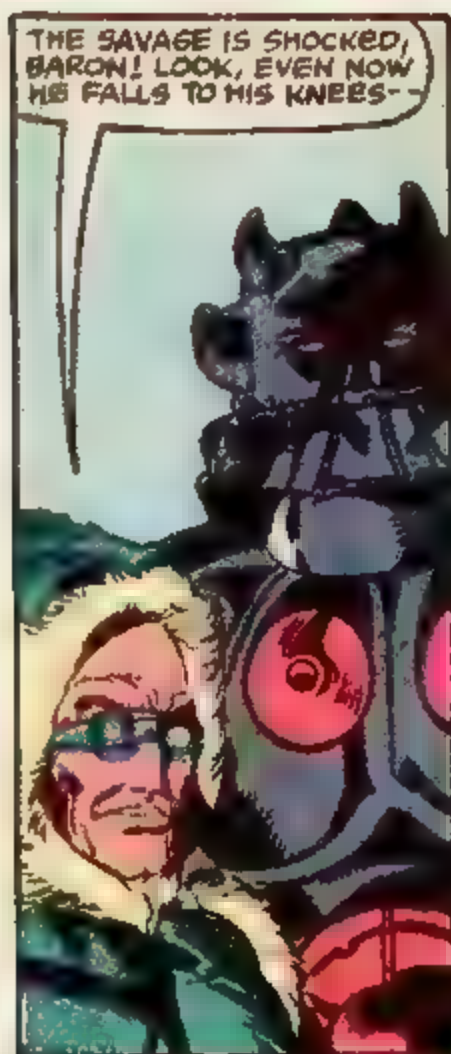
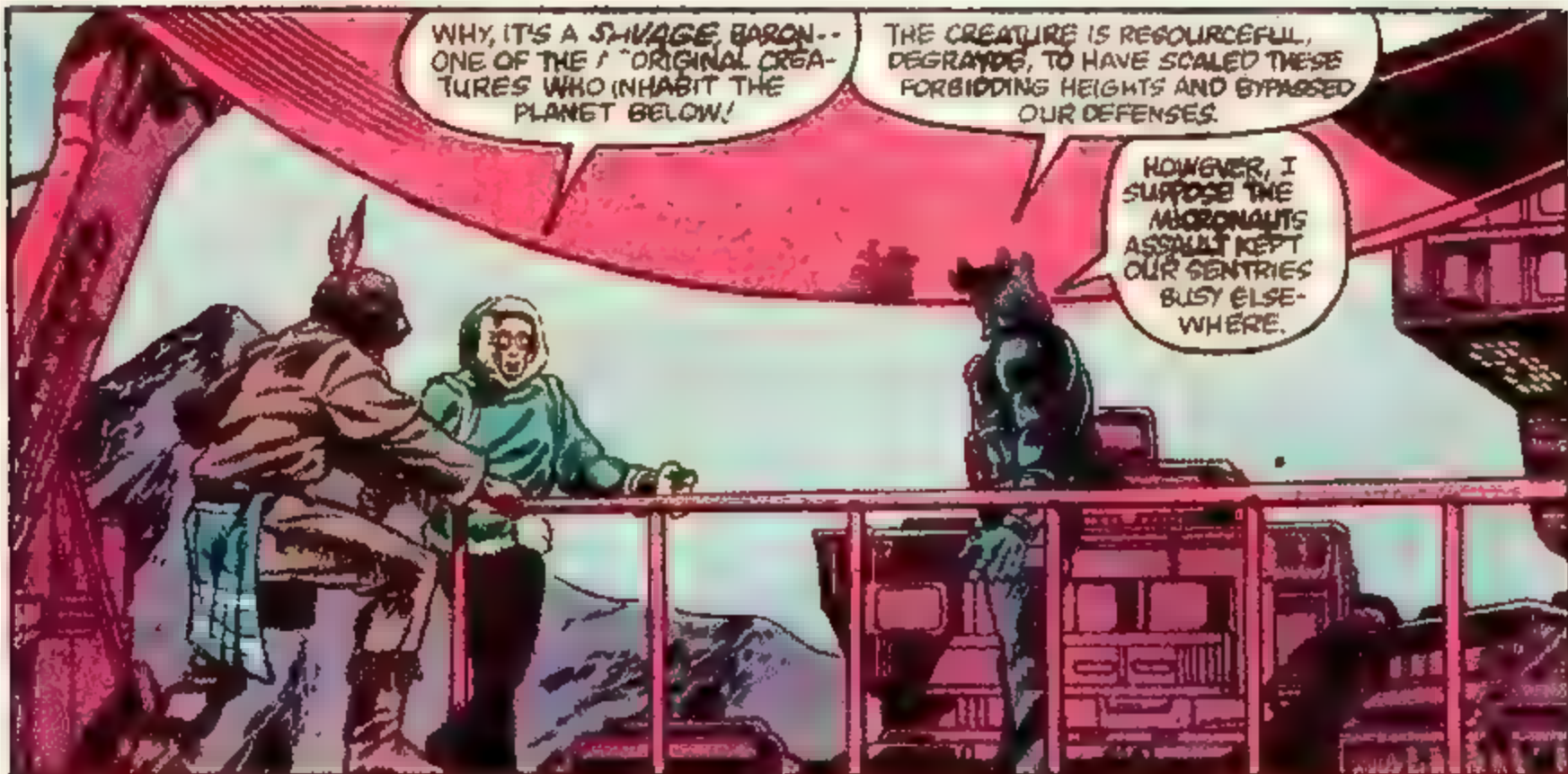
...AND D'ARK GIVES HIM NO
FURTHER THOUGHT, FOR THE
MICRONAUTS STILL REMAIN TO
BE DEALT WITH

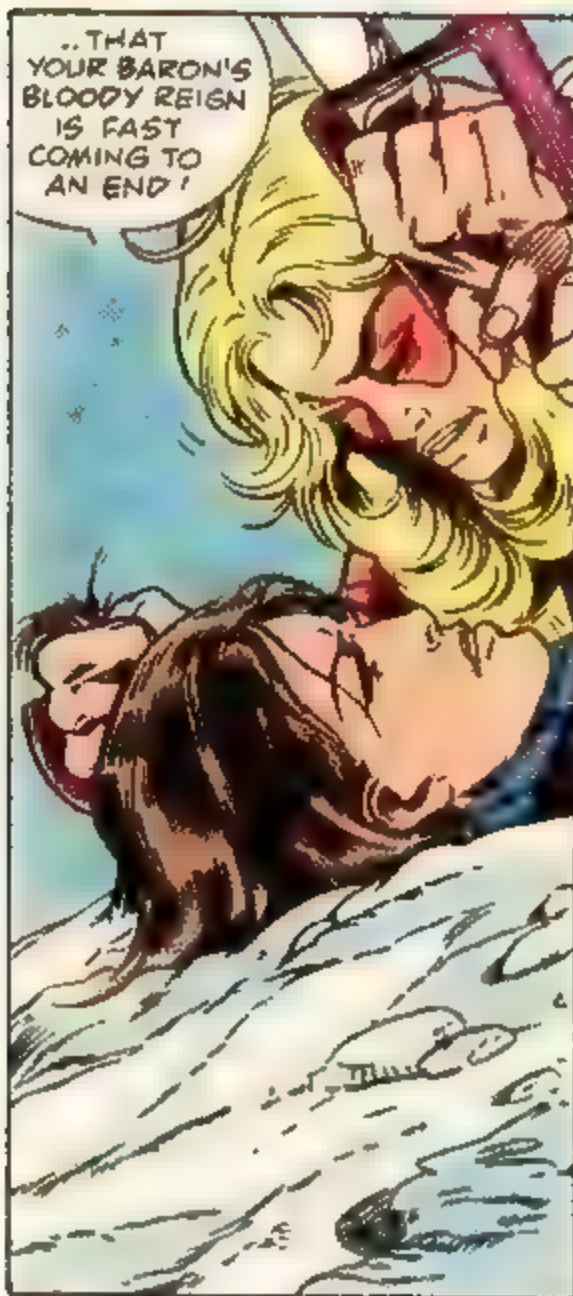
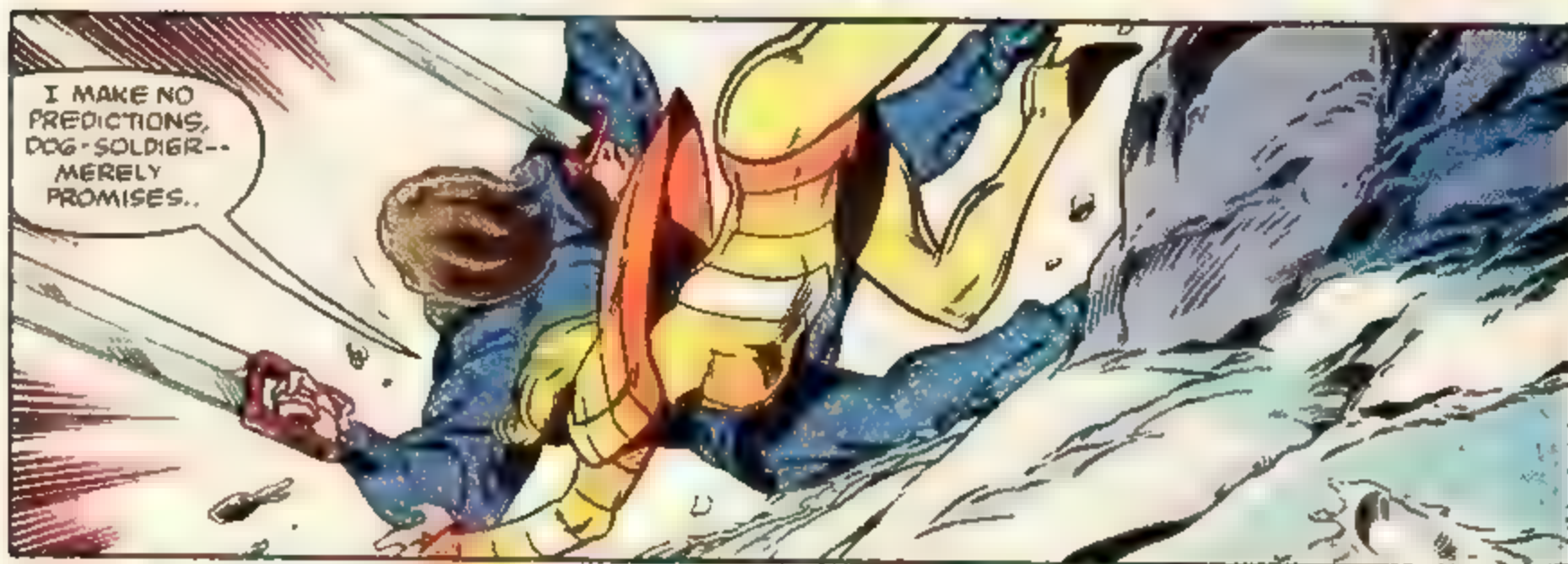
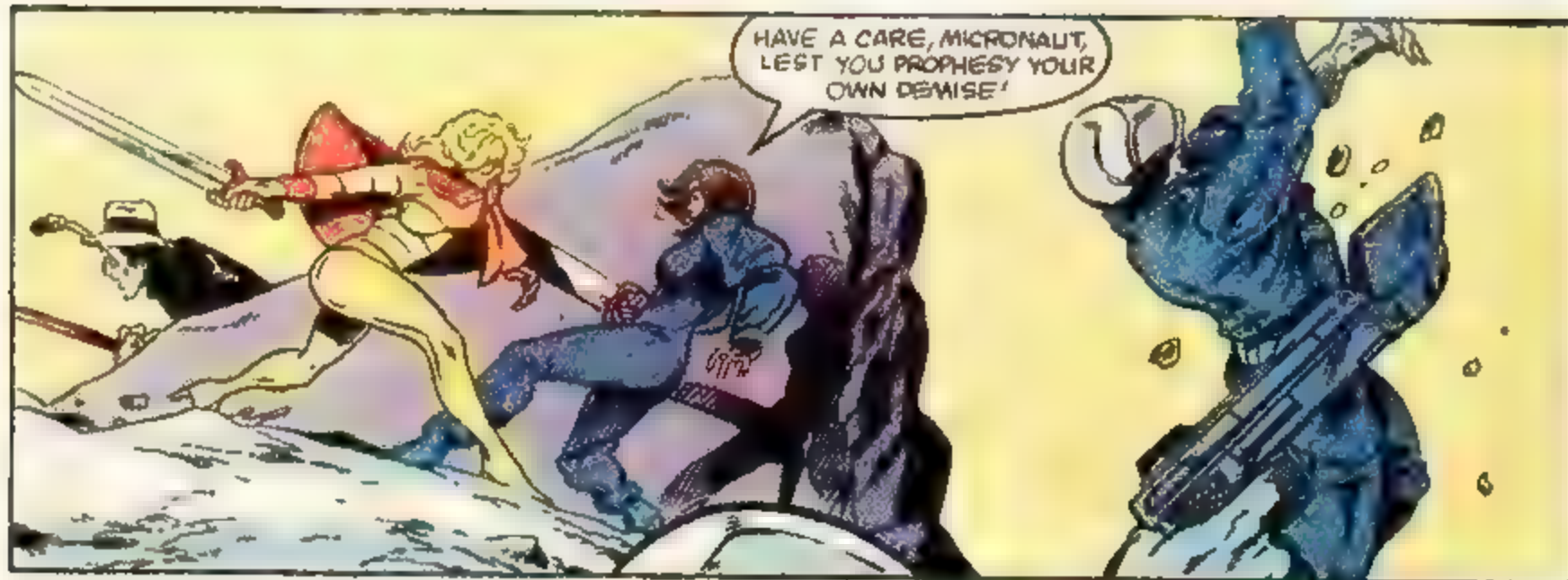


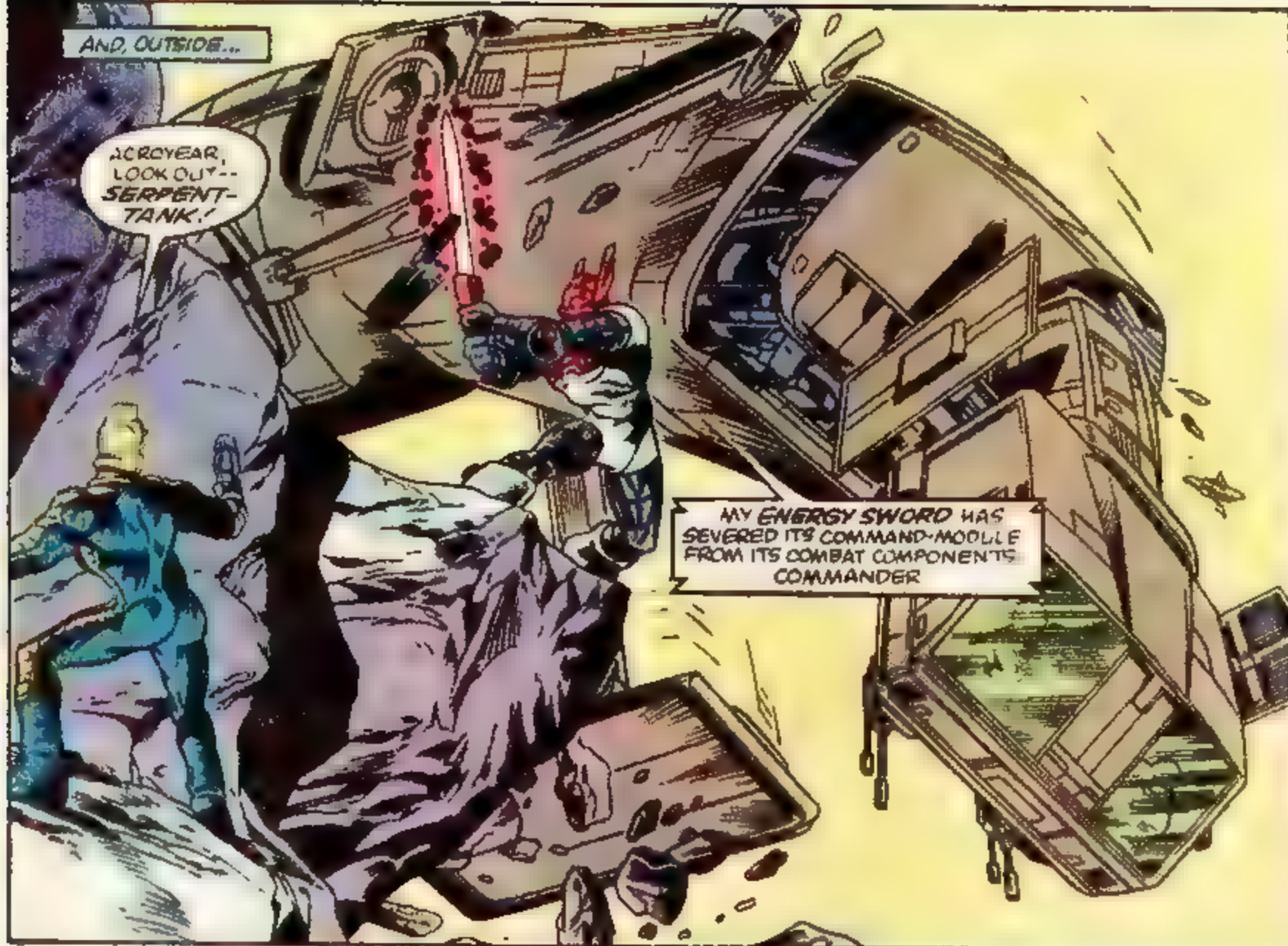
MEANWHILE, DJEEG
FINDS HIS ICE-GODS!

DEGRAYDE,
IT APPEARS WE
HAVE... A VISITOR.

EH?







AND, OUTSIDE...

ACROYEAR,
LOOK OUT--
SERPENT-
TANK!

MY ENERGY SWORD HAS
SEVERED ITS COMMAND-MODULE
FROM ITS COMBAT COMPONENTS
COMMANDER



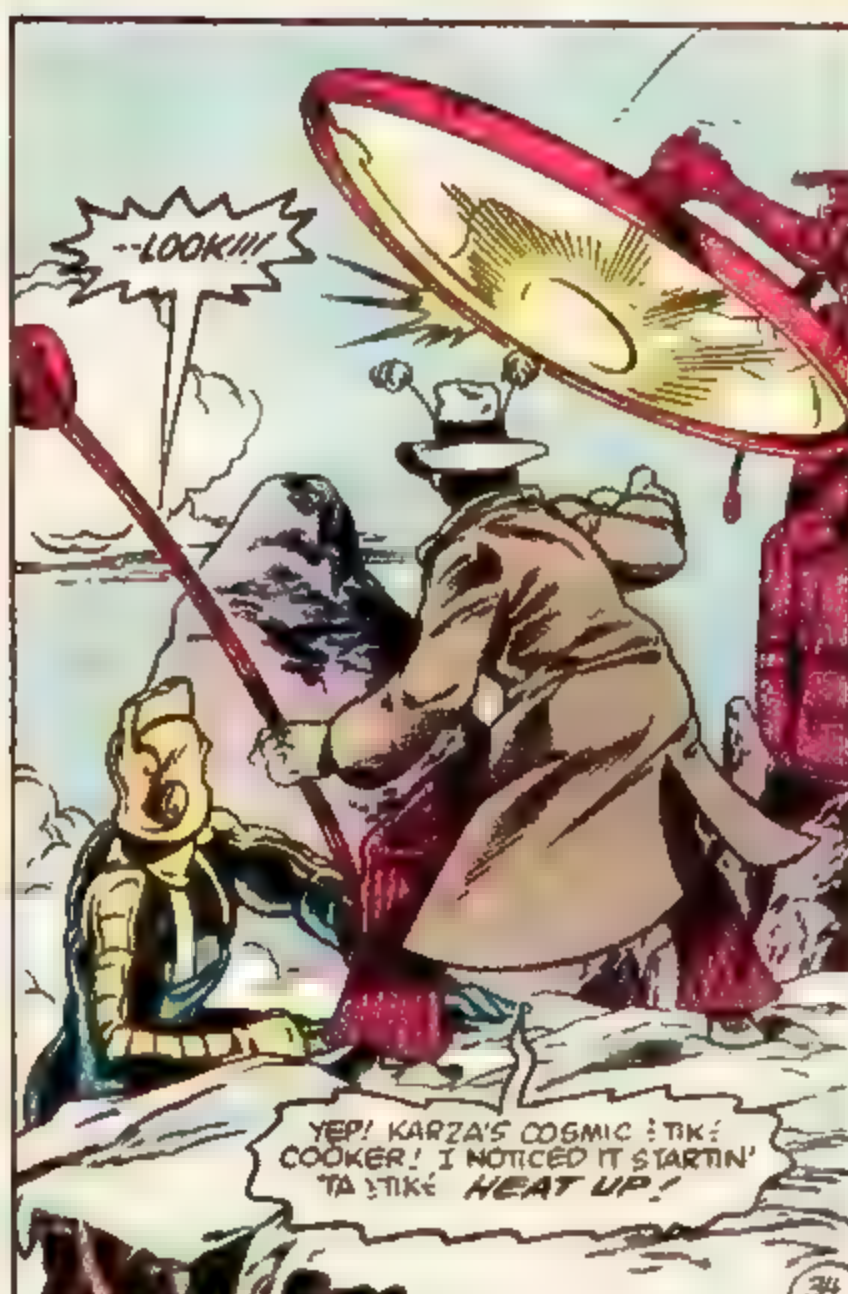
POOR COMMANDER
RANN! HIS TIME SPENT
IN TRYING TO CONTACT
THE ENIGMA FORCE
HAS DISTANCED HIM
FROM US!

HE ISSUES COM-
MANDS THAT WE ARE
ALREADY IN THE
PROGRESS OF CARRY-
ING OUT!



"I FEAR HE
WAS LOST HIS
ABILITY TO
"LEAD."

MICRONAUTS



--LOOK!!!

YEP! KARZA'S COSMIC :TIK:
COOKER! I NOTICED IT STARTIN'
TA :TIK: HEAT UP!

INDEED.



AS THE SUNSCOPE MOVES INTO POSITION BEFORE THE SUN OF NEVER-SUMMER AND THE PLANET ITSELF, IT GATHERS THE RAYS OF THAT SIMMERING SOLAR ORB...

...AND DJEEG'S WORLD BEGINS TO BOIL!!



WARM ENOUGH FOR YOU, SAVAGE?



D-DALLAN AND BEPSIS! THE SUNSCOPE'S CUT A SWATH RIGHT THROUGH THE BARON'S OWN DOG SOLDIERS!



KARZA'S WILLING TO SLAUGHTER A WORLD, D'ARK!

WHAT MADE YOU THINK YOU AND YOUR STORM-TROOPERS WOULD BE ANY LESS EXPENDABLE?!



ALL IS IN READINESS, BARON! AS THE SUN-SCOPE MELTED THE SNOWS ON THIS MOUNTAIN PEAK --

THE DISPLAY SEEMS TO HAVE SHOCKED OUR PRIMITIVE, DEGRAYDE!

SEE? HE UNLIMBERS SOME SORT OF WEAPON IN AN ATTEMPT TO DEFEY HIS GODS!

SO WILL IT INCINERATE THE WORLD BELOW!

STEEP MOUNTAIN
CLIMB -- BUT
UNLIKELY WOULD
REVEAL THE
SECRET OF THE
MOUNTAIN
PEAK

THE WARRIOR
WILL HIM
FIGHT THIS
BONY
ARMORED
DEGRAYDE
WARRIOR
NO DEITY



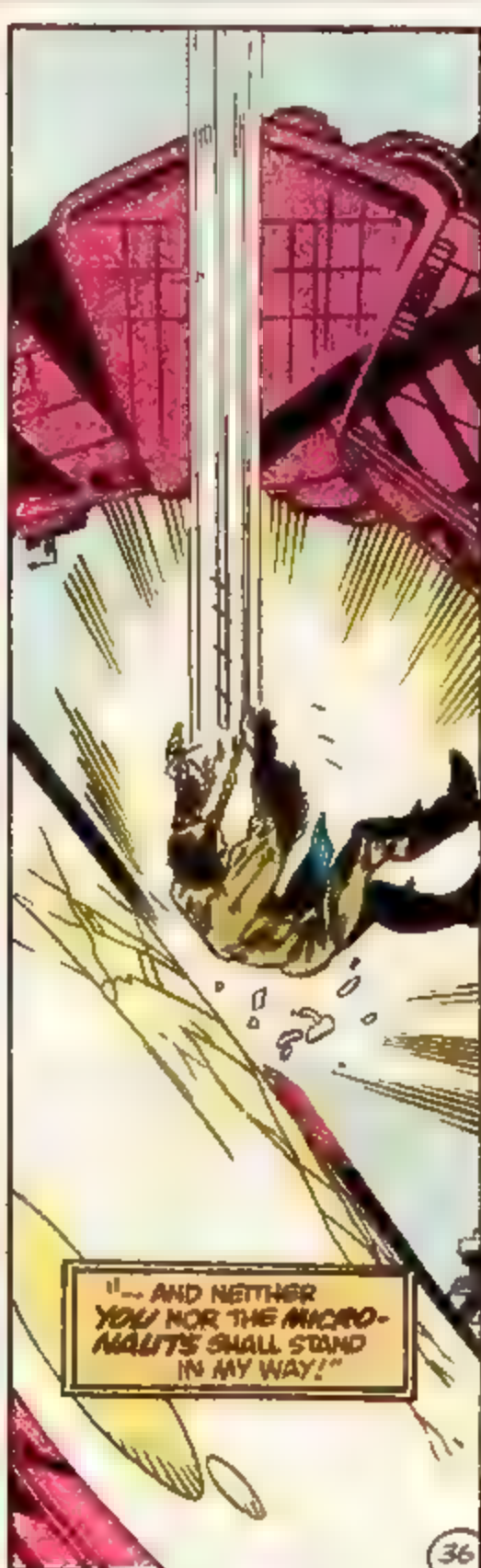
BACK, SAVAGE!



BACK, I SAY!



I'LL DO WITH YOUR WORLD AS I WILL --



"... AND NEITHER YOU NOR THE MICRO-MOLTS SHALL STAND IN MY WAY!"



JAPES CAME TO THE
JACKED MOUNTAIN
SEEKING TO FREE HIS
WORLD FROM THE
RELENTLESS GRIP
OF WINTER.

JAPES LATELY FOUND HIMSELF IN A DILEMMA. HE HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN THE TWO PATHS. HE HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN THE TWO PATHS. HE HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN THE TWO PATHS.





AND, WHERE THE
PEAK OF THE
SACRED MOUNTAIN
PIERCES THE
CLOUDS...

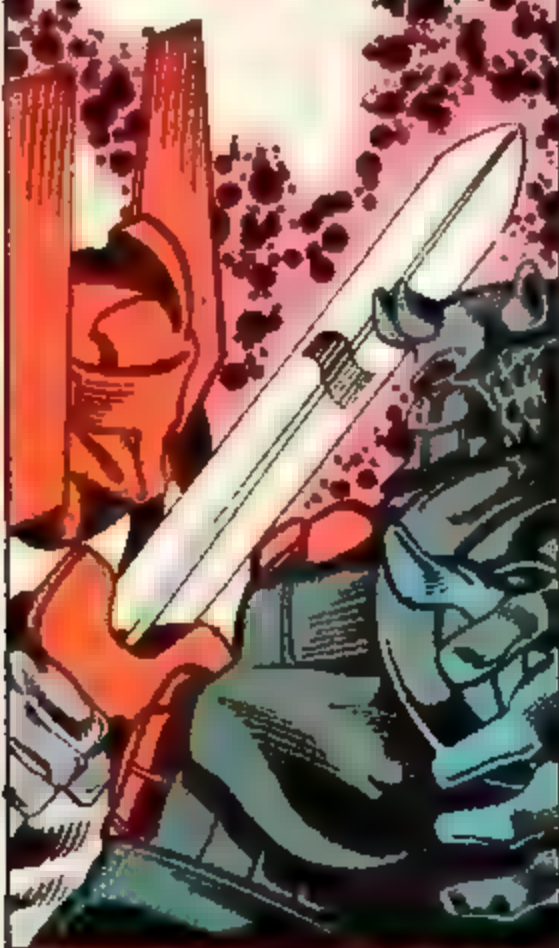


-- BEFORE I RAVAGE
A WORLD?!!



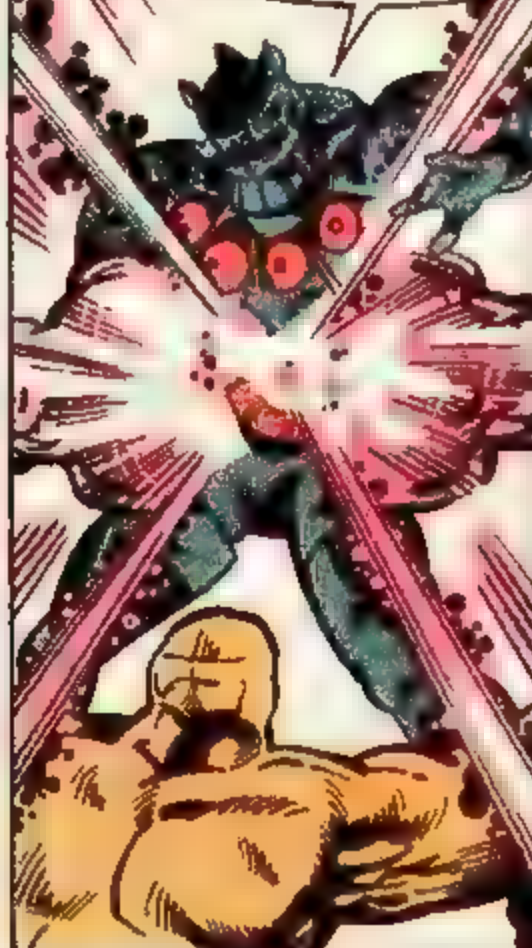
WILL YOU NEVER RELENT, MONSTER? MUST WORLD AFTER WORLD SUFFER YOUR INHUMAN EVIL?

MONSTER, ACROYEAR? INHUMAN?



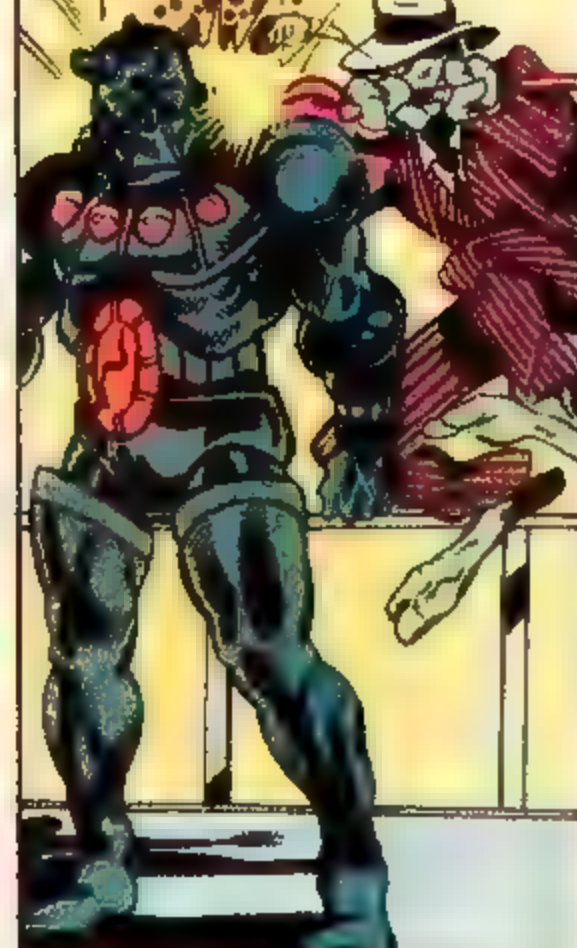
I AM NEITHER, FOOL! THE *TIME TRAVELERS* TAUGHT ME MY LIMITATIONS! I AM MERELY A MAN.

SO, IN MY OWN HUMBLE WAY, I HAVE ACCEPTED ONLY BEING ABLE TO INFLECT SUCH *SMALL SUFFERING* AS I CAN!



YES, SAD ISN'T IT?

SOME *TIK* CONQUER- OR YOL RE GONNA *TIK* BE! WHAT'RE YA GONNA *TIK* RULE OVER? ASHES??



IF WORLDS WON'T SERVE ME, YES!



BUT WHAT OF ALL THE PEOPLE INHABITING THOSE WORLDS? WHAT OF THE INNOCENT MILLIONS??

MERE FODDER FOR MY *BOOY BANKS*, HUNTARR--RAW MATERIALS ON WHICH TO EXPERIMENT TO CREATE *FREAKS* LIKE YOU!

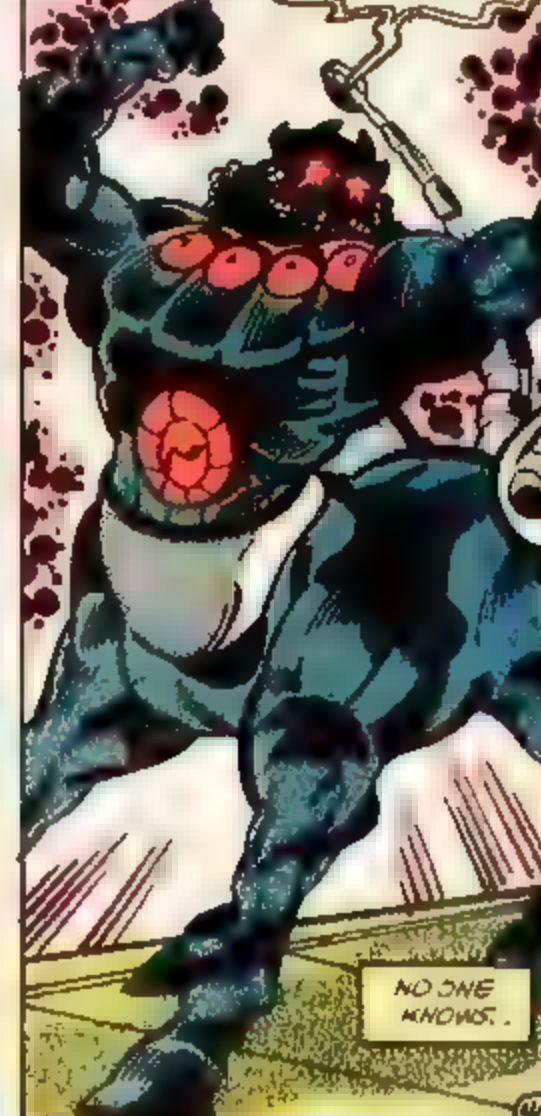
BUT THEN, SOMETHING GOES WRONG.



MY *SUNSCOPE*! IT IS OUT OF CONTROL!



BUT *HOW*??!

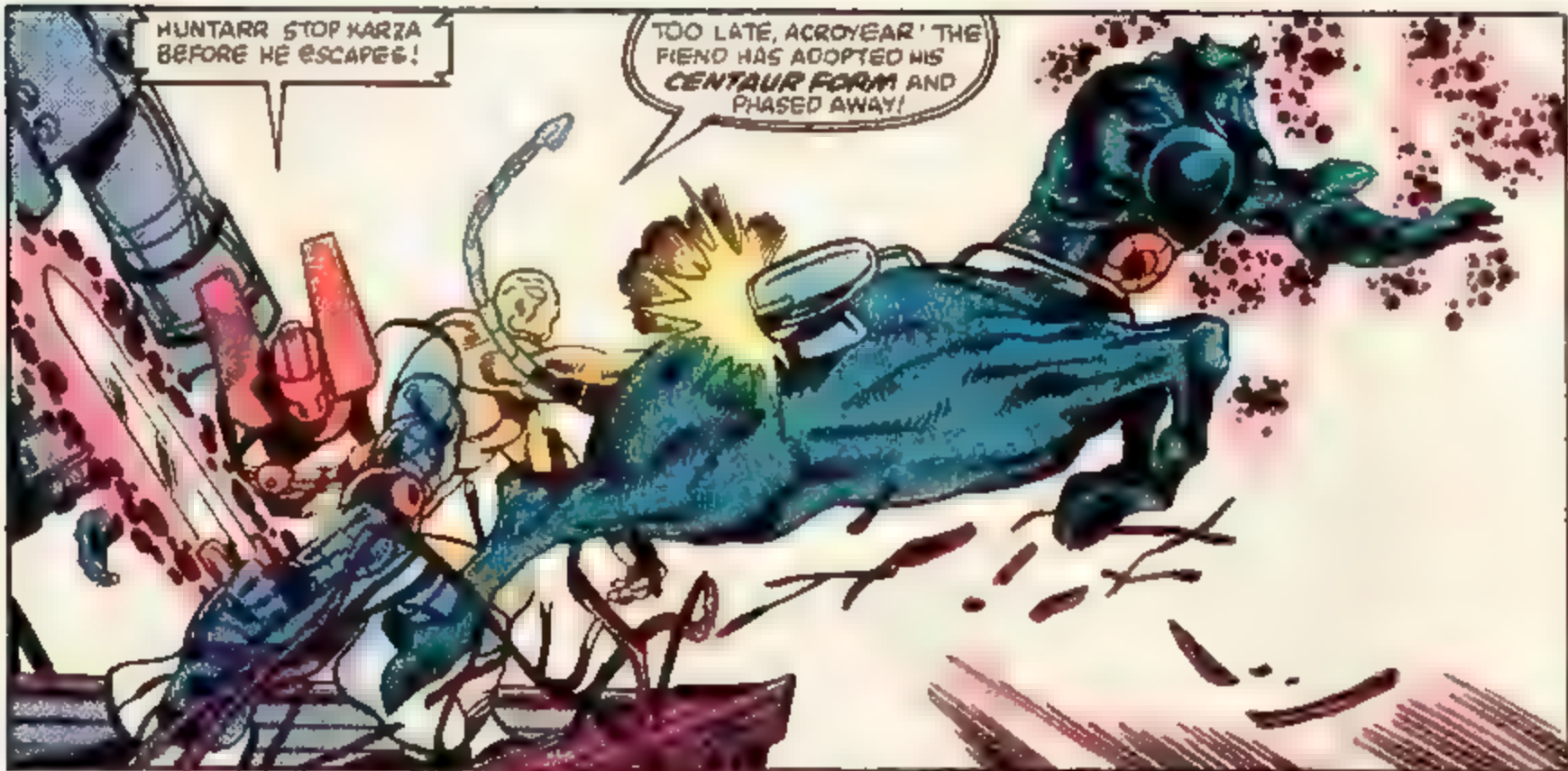


NO ONE KNOWS.



HUNTARR STOP KARZA
BEFORE HE ESCAPES!

TOO LATE, ACROYEAR! THE
FIEND HAS ADOPTED HIS
CENTAUR FORM AND
PHASED AWAY!

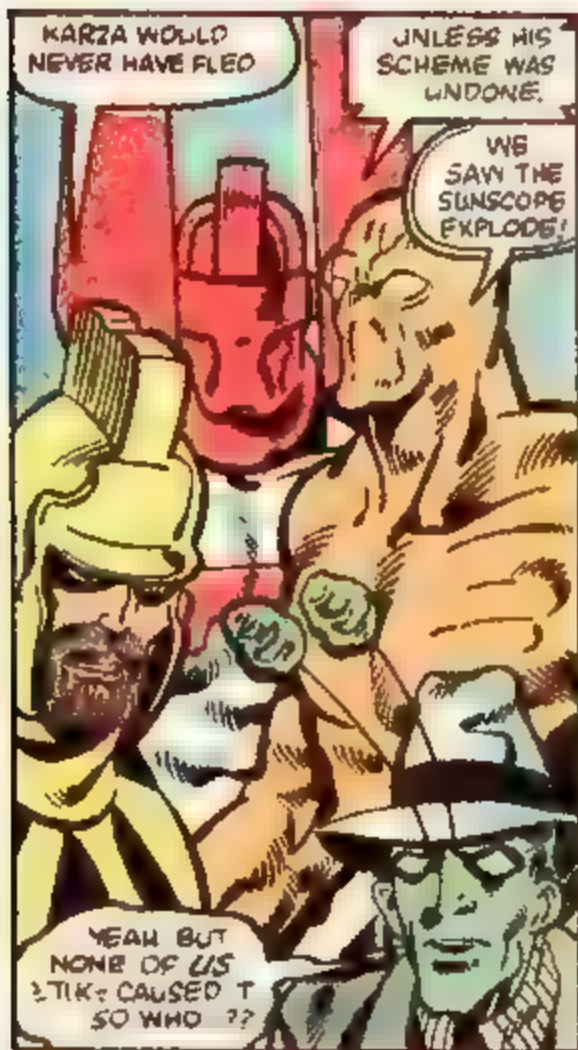


KARZA WOULD
NEVER HAVE FLED

UNLESS HIS
SCHEME WAS
UNDONE.

WE
SAW THE
SUNSCOPE
EXPLODE!

YEAH BUT
NONE OF US
3-TIK- CAUSED IT
SO WHO??

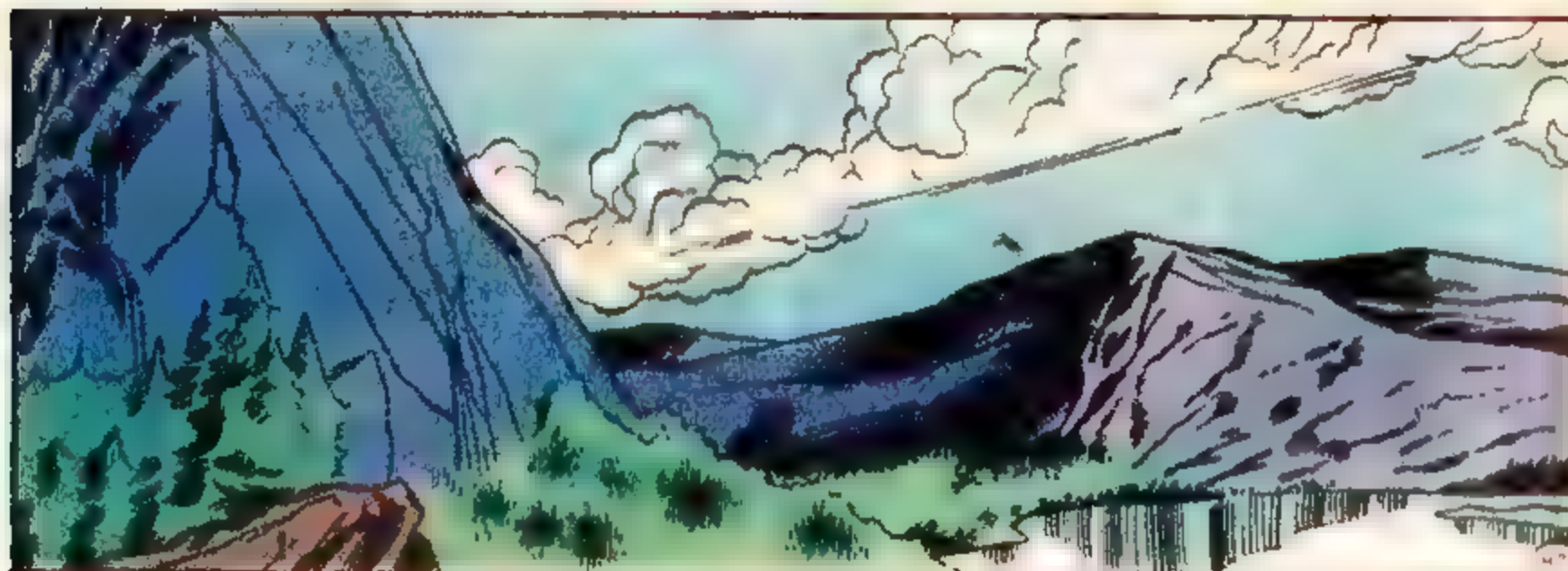


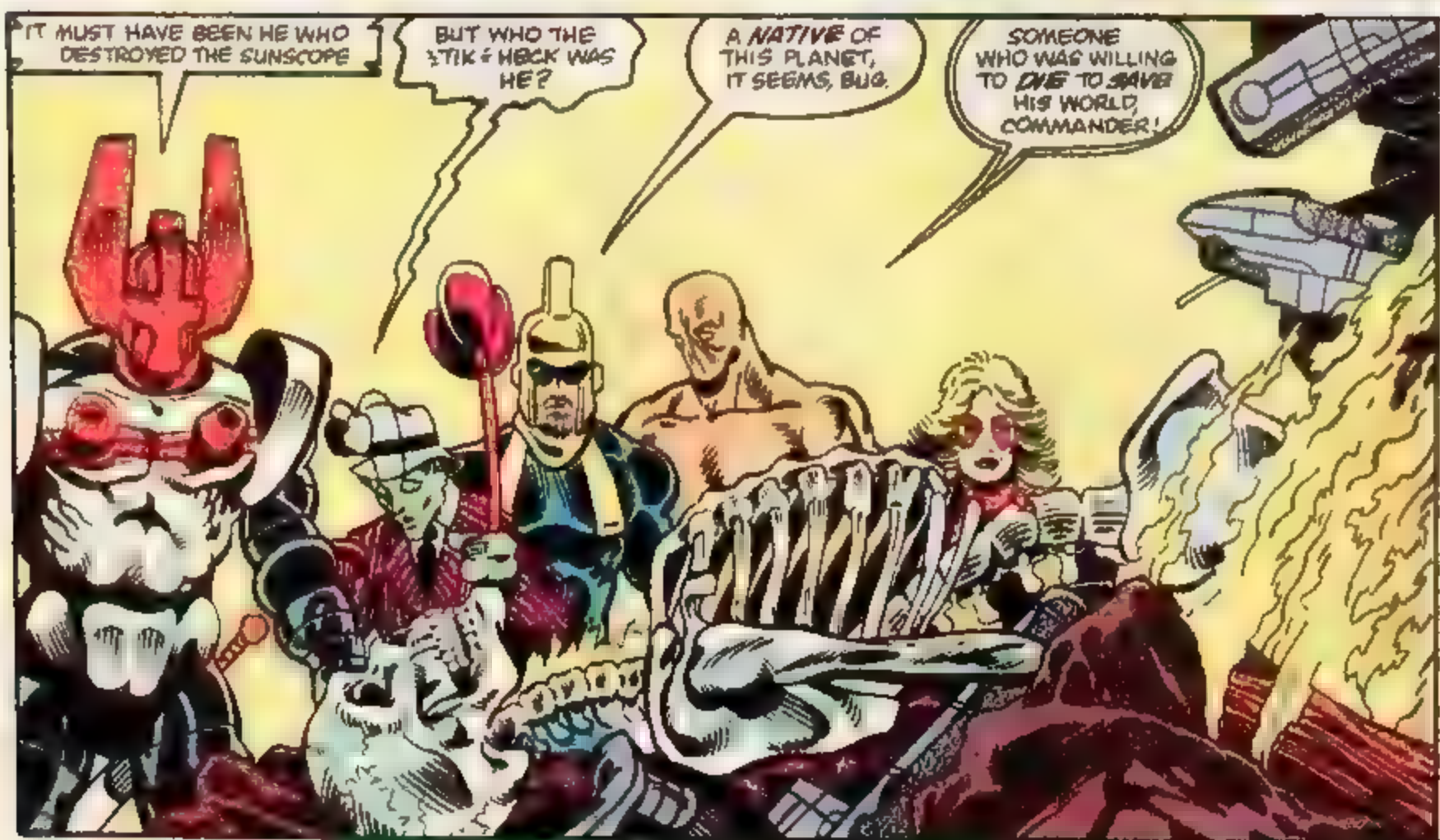
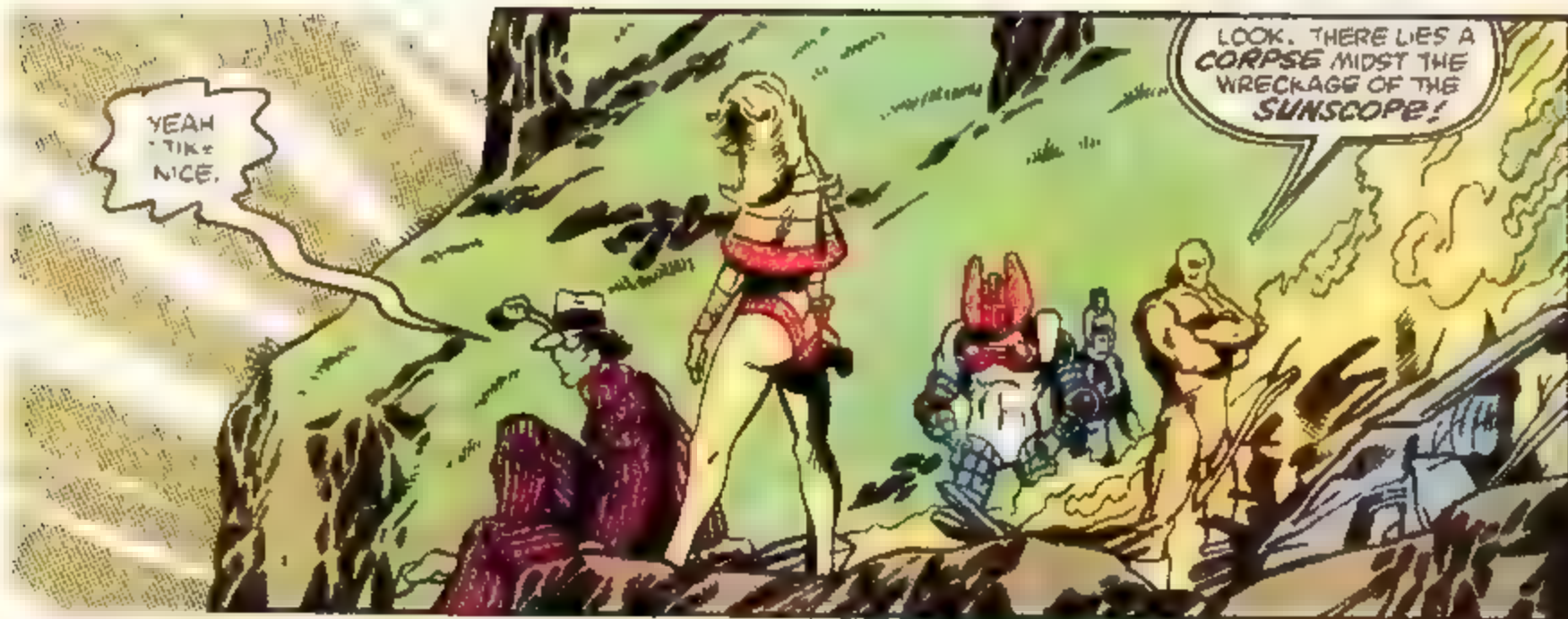
HEY PRINCESS!
YOU'RE 3-TIK-
CRYIN'! HOW
COME??

KARZA MEANT
TO **DESTROY**
THIS WORLD
BUG!



INSTEAD,
LOOK HOW
BEAUTIFUL
IT'S BECOME!





HE SACRIFICED
HIMSELF TO STOP
KARTZ AND I
BELIEVE HE
WAS SEEKING
NOT ONLY
SALVATION--

--BUT
SUMMER!

BRAIN TRUST &
BRIDGE AREA--
ORGANIC
COMPUTRONICS

A
MIGHTY
MARVEL
BONUS!

AUDIO
VISUAL
SENSORS

MOUTH
AIRLOCK

LIFE
SUPPORT
SYSTEMS

MICRONAUTS'
LIVING QUARTERS

STAR DIVE
ENGINES &
THRUSTERS

PERHAPS THE LAST LOOK YOU'LL EVER GET OF THE STAR SPANNING LIVING BIOSHIP

"BORN" OVER 1000 YEARS AGO ON THE MOLECULAR PLANET HOMEWORLD, THIS BIOTRON 600 SERIES ROBOD WAS TO SERVE AS A TELEPATHIC COMPANION TO COMMANDER ARCTURUS RANN, MICRONAUT, ON THEIR EXPLORATORY MISSION ACROSS THE MICROVERSE ABOARD HOMEWORLD MICRO SHIP ENDEAVOR.

GRAPPLE
UNITS

ONE THOUSAND YEARS LATER
COMMANDER RANN BECAME
LEADER OF A REBEL TEAM OF
CHAMPIONS KNOWN AS THE
MICRONAUTS, AND BIOTRON
FELL VICTIM DURING ONE OF
THEIR EPIC BATTLES AGAINST
THE EVIL OF BARON KARZA.

A CLOSER LOOK AT
THE BRAIN TRUST/
BRIDGE AREA

THOUGH IMPOSSIBLE TO ACTUALLY RESURRECT,
BIOTRON WAS RECREATED AS THE LIVING
BIOSHIP, GIVEN LIFE BY THE SACRIFICE OF HIS
FELLOW ORGANIC ROBODS MICROTRON AND
MANTOTRON, AND GIVEN MEMORY THANKS TO
A TELEPATHIC TRANSFER FROM HIS FRIEND,
COMMANDER RANN.

* FOR THE MEANING BEHIND THAT TANTALIZING PHRASE,
BE SURE TO CHECK OUT X-MEN/MICRONAUTS #4
AND MICRONAUTS #53 -- X-ship.

MICROMAILS

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

RALPH MACCHIO
EDITOR
BOB HARRAS
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear 'Nauts Chroniclers,

Here I am, staring at my copy of MICRO-NAUTS #54 (electrifying cover, eh? — sorry — just couldn't resist.) The air conditioner is humming. Stravinsky's Firebird Suite is playing in the background, and I am trying to think of something to write to you guys. The only thing that comes to mind, however, are all the old clichés of how great the art and writing are. I will, however, attempt to elaborate and expand upon these views.

Bill's writing is great. He expressed accurately the constant theme running through this series: freedom. He preached more about it this issue than any other and, at first, I thought he'd overdone it. After I started to think about it, however, I decided that one cannot get too preachy about as basic a concept as freedom. Very well done. I do have one question for Bill: how long is Rann going to "meditate," and is this your way of phasing him out of the book, at least temporarily?

Now for the art. Butch's pencils and Kelley's inks were sensational. They bring the Micronauts to life. The slugfest between the 'Nauts and the other prisoners was excellent and the look on the Dog Soldier's face was priceless. My favorite scene was on page 23, panel 1, which caught the sheer malevolence of Karza perfectly. The other panels on that page caught the hatred, defiance and even fear of the 'Nauts more eloquently than words. Very well done indeed.

With great stories like this printed on Mando paper and sold for only 75¢, I can see only a brighter future for the MICRO-NAUTS.

Mark C. Gentry
Route 2, Box 185
London, KY 40741

Dear Micromakers,

Until recently I'd lost interest in MICRO-NAUTS. I am getting a little tired of Baron Karza. Is he going to keep popping up every anniversary issue for the next fifty years? There has got to be something a little more interesting in the Microverse than Karza.

Prisonworld is a prime example! It was interesting, entertaining and NEW! And, the cover to issue #54 was absolutely great! This book's art is superb!

One plea: please bring back Pharoid. Perhaps he's still alive in Karza's body banks? He's one character that had (has) great potential. Keep up the great work!

Mark Angell
Goodlettsville, TN

The Microverse is a fascinating place, Mark, and one we still know very little

about. That should change somewhat as the 'Nauts further explore their home galaxy in the months to come.

Dear Micromakers,

Issue #54 was fantastic! No, it was better than that, but I can't find the words to describe it. Everything was perfect from the art to the story. The way Guice draws the Micronauts is superb. I especially like the way he draws my favorite character, Bug.

Murder One was great. I felt like crying when he died. Mari was better looking than ever. By the way, when will the MICRO-NAUTS / X-MEN series be on sale? I can't wait as they are my two favorite series. Finally, I would like to thank you all for the entertainment you have provided me since issue #1. I haven't missed one yet and I never intend to miss one in the future.

James Huff
2215 Grandin Road
Roanoke, VA

The third issue of the X-MEN / MICRO-NAUTS series should be on sale now, James. We suggest that all you Microphiles who haven't yet taken a gander at that book do so now, as everybody's favorite microteam undergoes some pretty drastic changes in that saga that will forever affect everyone who has ever called himself a Micronaut.

And, now for some comments on MICRO-NAUTS #55...

Dear Bill and Butch,

When MICRO-NAUTS became bi-monthly I objected at first. But after reading issue #55, "Huntarr Hunts Alone," I see why it takes the added time to create such a spectacular issue. I loved it!

Here's why:

- 1) Bug's conversation with Marionette. He shows us the sympathy and compassion he really feels.
- 2) Rann's confrontation with Karza at the Temple of Time.
- 3) Baron Karza's admission of mortality.
- 4) Huntarr's return to Homeworld. He shows us that, even though he looks like a monster, he is really still quite human.

Please keep up the great work!

Frank W. Bruck
1710 Clement Street
Great Hill, IL 60435

Dear Bill and Butch,

As is evident by the events in MICRO-NAUTS #55, the Micronauts are all undergoing emotional turmoil. To wit:

The most shocking scene occurred in the first few pages. It was, in a way, very disturbing to find that Mari and Bug have

become lovers. As first impressions go, I felt that this new development had come from left field. However, after some consideration, I feel that it was really a very realistic and natural turn of events. After all, with Rann still meditating Mari feels very lonely and unloved. Bug has felt this emptiness since the demise of his beloved Jasmine. Both friends need each other's comfort. The only thing that bothers me is that Mari — by her own admission — still loves Arcturus Rann, even though she believes he is a coward. So what is going to happen when Rann comes out of his reverie? How will Bug's affair with Mari affect his relationship with Rann?

Another distressing scene in this issue was when Acroyear attempted suicide. I really can't blame him, considering all that he has gone through in the past few months. Acroyear is tired of fighting, and his will to live is almost gone. I feel sorry for him, and I hope that the birth of his child will bring him some happiness.

Before I close this letter, I must praise both Bill and Butch for the influx of realism and new life that has been pumped into this mag lately. I've been a faithful reader of the MICRO-NAUTS for a long time, and if having the book come out bi-monthly and direct sales only means that this quality will continue — then I'm all for it!

Jorge L. Gonzalez
10411 S. W. 20th St.
Miami, FL 33165

Quality is what we always strive for, Jorge.

Some of your questions regarding the new triangle between Rann, Bug and Mari have been answered this issue, but there will be still more developments in the months to come. As we noted above, changes are in store for the 'Nauts.

Dear Micromakers,

After reading MICRO-NAUTS #55, I have a few comments:

First, the scene between Bug and Marionette was disgusting! There obviously wasn't any real love between them. The Micronauts may have fallen on hard times and have much reason to despair, but I didn't think any of them would go this far!

Now, that was the only bad part of the issue; the rest of it was the best we've seen in a long, long time. Having Karza seek the Time Travelers was a good plot twist, and many things could come of it. Acroyear's suicide attempt really showed us how he must be feeling. The Acroyear subplot and Cilicia's part in it are my favorite parts of this mag, and I can't wait to see it resolved.

But the Huntarr part was the BEST. Bill and Butch have really succeeded in show-

CONTINUED ON INSIDE BACK COVER.

MICRONAUTS® Vol. 1, No. 57, March, 1984. (ISSN 0274-5321) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Gallion, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing, Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Second Class postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. Published bi-monthly. MICRO-NAUTS®, SPACE GLIDER®, BIOTRON®, MICROTRON®, ACROYEAR®, BARON KARZA®, GALACTIC DEFENDER™, LASERSONICS®, PHOBOS®, FORCE COMMANDER®, TIME TRAVELER®, HYDRO COPTER®, ASTRO STATION®, REPTO®, ANTRON®, NEON ORBITER®, THORIUM ORBITER®, STAR SEARCHER®, BATTLE CRUISERS®, CENTAURUS®, AMPZILLA®, LOBROS®, HYDRAN® and PHAROID™ are trademarks of MEGO-CORP. and the likenesses of the characters to which those names are applied are the property of MEGO-CORP. and the trademarks and likenesses are used with the permission of MEGO-CORP. MICRO-NAUTS® copyright © 1983 by MEGO-CORP. Creator of MEGO Micronauts characters, Martin B. Abrams. All rights reserved. All other material copyright © 1983 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price \$1.00 per copy in the U.S. and \$1.25 in Canada. Subscription rate: \$9.00 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, \$11.00. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept., Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

MICROMAILS

ing us how truly evil Karza is, and how truly horrid Homeworld has become because of him. Very well done!

MICRONAUTS is still one of the best comics around, and I'll stick with them for awhile, but please, keep the characters WITHIN character. Don't have them change their morals every issue.

Roger Spendlove
1614 S. Urban Way
Lakewood, CO 80228

Dear Ralph,

MICRONAUTS #55:
Bug and Marionette?
Suicide for Acroyear?
Commander Rann forsaken by the Enigma Force?!

Too much, this is just too much!!!

Ronald E. Desroches
72 Artisan Street
Chicopee, MA 01013

And guess what, Ronald? It's just the beginning!!

Dear Ralph,

I have been a MICRONAUTS fan since issue #1, and since then I have seen the title go through several "ups" and "downs" (none of which affected my loyalty). Since the coming of Butch Guice, the MICROS have been on a definite "up" — his pages and his covers have been nothing less than dynamic. Mantlo's storyline and character development have been equally great with the exception of one character: Commander Arcturus Rann.

In the past ten issues or so, Rann, who so brilliantly led the Micronauts through the Karza Wars as well as through many other adventures, has been reduced to a third-rate character: unsure of himself as both a leader as well as a man.

In the beginning, Rann was an exciting character because he was, in a sense, more than just a man: he was a hero. He was strong, confident and daring. He had the respect of his team. He was feared by Baron Karza, the one man who had brought the Microverse to its knees. He was the living embodiment of the Enigma Force. Since he lost his spirit and the respect of his team (#51) the Enigma Force has been torn from him. And, as is evident in issue #55, he is losing the woman he loves.

Rann said, "... I feel like a man who's lost his soul." Indeed he has. It is tragic to have a character die and leave the pages of a book (as did Phoenix and Captain Marvel, among others), but it is even more tragic to have one "die" and remain.

Eric Lowery
P.O. Box 3837
Brown University
Providence, RI 02912

You're right, Eric, Arcturus Rann was (and is, in our opinion) a hero. You are also right when you point out that the Commander is also a man, and like any man, he can, at times, lose heart and even fall.

And, like any man, he may give in to his despair. Whatever Rann's ultimate decision will be — whether he will seek the leadership of the 'Hauts again or whether he will leave the team — it will be his decision alone.

Dear Bill, Butch, Ralph and Bob,

These are the reasons I liked MICRO-NAUTS #55:

- 1) Bill Mantlo. How does he do it? Four titles plus various limited series every month and they're all great. His steady scripting has been great since issue #1.
- 2) Butch Guice. Marvel's newest artistic sensation has outdone himself this time. I can't wait for his work on the upcoming X-MEN MICRONAUTS limited series.
- 3) Kelley Jones. Butch's work looks much better due to Mr. Jones' talented inking.
- 4) Mando paper. High quality art and stories deserve high quality paper.
- 5) A relationship between Bug and Mari?
- 6) Karza visiting the Time Travelers. Having Karza try to "bribe" them was a very logical and clever plot device.
- 7) Huntarr. I was afraid that with this issue, "Huntarr Hunts Alone," that he was leaving. Thanks for having him join the Micronauts officially.

This is the reason I did not like MICROS #55:

- 1) I had to wait two months to get it.
- I suppose if the quality stays this good, I can wait an extra month to get it.

Brian Lind
2807 Merrill
St. Paul, MN 55113

Dear Micromakers,

Yeah! MICRONAUTS #55 was another in a line of sleepers that look to become a big time classic in the "best-issue-in-the-history-of-the-world" contest. These recent issues have been the best ever put out in this series, and I've been here since issue #1.

Maybe they just seem so good in comparison to previous issues. The original Micronauts degenerated into stereotypes and then into boring, depressed people with so many head problems they could have kept all the psychiatrists in the world busy. And even worse than that, the new Micronauts were insults to my intelligence. I never got along with Devil and I could not stand Nanotron. But I didn't give up, through all the

ruin and all the boredom. I knew this series could be restored to greatness. And I knew what it would take: major changes. Things like the writing off of Devil, the death of Nanotron (writing off would be too good for her!), making the old characters interesting again, and, most importantly of all, the return of Baron Karza! (Don't kill him!!)

But, as I said, issue #55 was a classic. Bill shows the much more mature approach he has taken to his characters lately. Bug and Mari's affair and Bug's counseling of Acroyear are evidence of this.

The scene with Rann and Karza at the Temple of Time was one of the many high points of the issue. Karza's personal viewpoint of order and chaos was very interesting, and I hope we learn more about Karza's views on this situation.

But, this was Huntarr's issue, and his was the best part. The plight of Homeworld was poignantly shown with the fate of Huntarr's family. Genetic alterations and breeding Dog Soldiers are horrible practices, yet they are probably only two small atrocities in Karza's grand scheme. The anguish felt by Huntarr literally radiated from the pages. This comic brought me closer to tears than any other story I have ever read.

Stories like this are what made the MICRONAUTS my favorite comic again.

Mark Brett
(No address given)

Dear Bill and Butch,

It's too bad we don't get to see more stories come our way like that of MICRO-NAUTS #55. Don't get me wrong, guys, it's not that I'm putting down any previous efforts. Far be it from that. All I'm suggesting are more concentrated solo stories. Huntarr's latest performance was stunning. His ability to adapt to nearly anything makes him a powerhouse which our heroes are presently desperately in need of. I know his character — the supposedly unfeeling humanoid type — isn't original, but I'm sure Bill will throw us a few welcome curves. The point I'm trying to make is that individual outings are entertaining in a book where anything goes. How about some more?

Bill Vey
26 Gaitwain Place
Scarborough, Ontario

NEXT ISSUE: The ultimate confrontation between the Micronauts and Baron Karza! The fearsome fate of Homeworld! The 'Hauts face their greatest triumph — but the cost of victory may be too great to pay! You dare not miss MICRONAUTS #56, "The Final Fall"! On sale in sixty days.





NEXT ISSUE:
THE

FINAL FALL!

DON'T
MISS THE
TRIUMPH
OF THE
MICRONAUTS!

BUTCH
GUICE/1983